INSURANCE.

Bombay Millowners' Association is anxious to help Indian Insurance Companies.

The Bombay Chronicle

INSURANCE.

Will Millowners put into practice their own resolve to help Indian Insurance Companies?

FOUNDED BY SIR PHEROZSHAHA M. MEHTA IN 1913.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

VOL XV NO 204— BOMBAY TUESDAY DECEMBER 27 1927 ONE ANNA

SHIPPING

P. & O. BRITISH INDIA.

(Incorporated in England).

MAIL & PASSENGERS SERVICE

P. and O. SAILINGS to PLYMOUTH AND LONDON CALLING AT MARSEILLES.

All passengers are required to be in possession of passports.

Date.	Steamers	Connecting at Aden with.	Tons
1927			
31 Dec.	KAISAR-I-HIND		11,518
1928			
7 Jan.	RAWALPINDI	MALOJA@	20,837
14 ,,	RANPURA		16,601
21 ,,	RAWALPINDI	MOREA*	16,08
24 ,,	RANCHI		16,650
4 Feb.	RAZMAK	NALDERA x	16,5
11 ,,	RAWALPINDI		16,619
18 ,,	RAZMAK	MALWA*	10,986
25 ,,	RAJPUTANA		16,568
3 Mar.	RAZMAK	NARKUNDA	16,302
10 ,,	KAISAR-I-HIND		11,518
17 ,,	RAZMAK@†		16,602
21 ,,	CHINA§		7,952
24 ,,	RANPURA		16,601
31 ,,	MOOLTAN‡		20,847
7 Apr.	RANCHI		16,650
14 ,,	RAZMAK@		16,602
21 ,,	RAWALPINDI		16,619
28 ,,	MALOJA‡		20,837
5 May.	RAJPUTANA		16,568
12 ,,	RAZMAK	MOREA*	10,933
19 ,,	KAISAR-I-HIND		11,518
26 ,,	RAZMAK	NALDERA‡	16,088
2 June	RANPURA		16,601
9 ,,	RAZMAK	MALWA*	10,986
16 ,,	CHINA		7,952
23 ,,	RAZMAK	NARKUNDA x	16,572
30 ,,	RAWALPINDI		16,619

@ To Marseilles only.

X Through steamers from Australia have limited accommodation for passengers from India.

*Through steamers from China have limited accommodation for passengers from India.

† 1st Saloon only

§ Extra sailing at the following reduced rates:—

1st Saloon to London A. £80, B. £70, C. £60.

1st Saloon to Marseilles A. £72, B. £62, C. £56.

2nd Saloon to London A. £54, B. £50.

2nd Saloon to Marseilles A. £50, B. £48.

SPECIAL OFF SEASON RETURN TICKETS.

First Saloon Return Tickets at Special Reduced Rates will be issued for any Mail Steamer during the period commencing from Bombay with the sailing of the S. S. "RANPURA," on the 2nd of June, 1928, and terminating with the "KAISER-I-HIND" due in Bombay on the 21st September. The fares will be as follows:—

To London and back by Sea £105
To London and back via Marseilles including P. & O. Special Train across France in both directions ... £120
To Marseilles and back £100

P. & O. SPECIAL TRAIN MARSEILLES—LONDON.

During the months of June, July and August the fare by this train will be reduced to £10.

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS.

Bombay to Port Said and Plymouth.

Date about,	Steamers		Tons.
1928			
12th Jan.	DOMALA	—	8,441
23rd Feb.	MANORA	—	7,888
15th March	DUMANA	—	8,497
5th April	MANELA	—	8,303
3rd May	DOMALA	—	8,441

P. & O SAILINGS TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, JAPAN and AUSTRALIA.

1927			
x31st Dec.	TASMANIA M.	..	Straits and Japan
1928			
x5th Jan.	KIDDERPORE	..	Straits, China and Japan.
x13th ,,	HIYEIZAN M.		Straits & Japan
17th ,,	KHIVA	..	Colombo Straits China and Japan
31st ,,	KALYAN	..	Colombo Straits China and Japan

xDoes not carry Passengers.

SHIPPING

N. Y. K. LINE

SINGAPORE, CHINA & JAPAN

Steamers.	Tons.	Arrival.	Departure
Muroran Maru ..	5374	16 Dec.	30 Dec.
Moji Maru ..	3757	22 ,,	5 Jan.
Sado Mar ..	5:98	30 ,,	12 ,,
Miyadono Maru ..	..	1 Jan.	12 ,,
Tyne Maru ..	5873	19 ,,	20 ,,
Genoa Maru ..	6785	16 ,,	30 ,,
Meigen Maru	5345	21 ,,	3 ,,
*Awa Maru ..	6028	30 ,,	12 Feb.

* Passenger Steamer

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

Qaunda Building, Hornby Road Bombay Phone Nos. 20279, 23738. Telg: "Yusen"

OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA

O.S.K. LINE

REGULAR SERVICE TO JAPAN via SINGAPORE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI.

Steamer.	Arrival	Departure.
Hoyo Maru ..	15th Dec.	31st Dec.
Shinnoh Maru ..	15th ,,	31st ,,
Hankow Maru ..	19th ,,	31st ,,
Celebes Maru ..	24th ,,	8th Jan.
Ishikari Maru ..	29th Dec.	10th ,,
Indus Maru ..	7th Jan.	16th ,,
Borneo Maru ..	11th ,,	20th ,,
Yeikoku Maru ..	20th ,,	30th ,,

For Particulars apply to:—

C. MURASE, Manager.

Phone Nos. 22150 and 25473.

Telegrams: "SHOSEN."

Box No. 355.

Taj Building, Hornby Road, Bombay.

THE SCINDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICES BETWEEN

1. Rangoon, Bombay, Karachi, via Malabar.
2. Rangoon, Madras, Colombo.
3. Calcutta and Karachi via Coast Ports.
4. Rangoon, Calcutta, according in demand.

For freights and other particulars apply to: Messrs. NAROTTAM MORARJEE & CO. Agents.

Ballard Estate, Bombay.

BRITISH INDIA SAILINGS TO AFRICA, KARACHI, PERSIAN GULF, TUTICORIN, COLOMBO, MADRAS, CALCUTTA & RANGOON.

1927			
26th Dec	VITA	..	Karachi via Port Okha & Cutch Mandvie.
28th ,,	BANKURA	..	Busreh via Karachi & Persian Gulf Ports
28th ,,	xELORA	..	Mombasa.
30th ,,	VARELA	—	Busreh via Karachi.
31st ,,	CHAKLA	—	Karachi via Porebunder Dwarka & Cutch Mandvie.
1928			
4th Jan.	KHANDALLA		East & South Africa.

xExtra sailing to Mombasa only.

There will be saillings for Karachi on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays every week. Local passengers for Karachi can only proceed by the Friday sailings when accommodation is not required for passengers ex the P. & O. Mail Steamer or through Passengers to Busreh. Terms and Rates of Freights and Passage may be arranged with

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO., Ballard Road, Fort. Bombay.

Income-Tax & Super-Tax

Statutory Statement of Account prepared, Audit of Books of Firms UNDERTAKEN.

B. L. THOSAR PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT.

436-437, Kalbadevi Road, BOMBAY.

Tel. No. 22297.

BANKING

Punjab National Bank, Limited.

ESTABLISHED 1895.

Authorised Capital	Rs.	1,00,00,000
Issued Capital	Rs.	50,00,000
Subscribed Capital	Rs.	50,00,000
Paid Up Capital	Rs.	31,07,401
Reserve Funds	Rs.	23,00,000

LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

1. Raja Govind Lal (Chairman).
2. Hon'ble Sir Manmohandass Ramji.
3. Lala Kishen Prasad.

HEAD OFFICE: 47, THE MALL, LAHORE.

BRANCHES:

Abohar	Hyderabad (Sind)	Montgomery
Allahabad	Jullundur	Montgomery (Sind)
Amritsar	Jaranwalla	Okara (dist.)
Amballa City	Jhelum City	Peshawar Can
Amballa Cant.	Jamma	Peshawar City
Bombay	Jhang (Maghiana)	Patiala
Cawnpore	Karachi	Quetta
Culcutta	Kasur	Rawalpindi
Delhi	Lahore City	Sangla Hill
D. I. Khan	Lyallapur	Sargodha
Ferozepore	Ludhiana	Sialkot City
Gujranwalla	Meerut City	Simla
Gojra	Multan City	Srinagar
Hafizabad		
Hoshiarpur		

LONDON AGENTS:

THE MIDLAND BANK LTD.

AMERICAN AGENTS:

AMERICAN EXCHANGE IRVING TRUST COMPANY.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS are opened and interest allowed at 3 per cent. from January to June and 2-1/2 per cent. from July to December, at Bombay on a minimum daily balance of Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,00,000.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received for 12 months and shorter periods at rates of interest which can be ascertained on application.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS:—Sums as low as Rs. 10 received and interest allowed at 4 per cent per annum.

LOANS OVERDRAFTS and CASH CREDITS.—The Bank grants accommodation on terms to be arranged against approved securities.

CHEQUES, HUNDIES, BILLS, etc., of outstations are bought, collected and discounted.

For other particulars and rules of business apply to:—

P. D. TANDON,
Secretary and Chief Manager.
Sassoon House,
Churchgate Street, Bombay.

"Second To None"

Mr. RANGANATH RAO, of Ranipet writes:—

"I had occasions to use the world famed ATANK NIGRAH PILLS..... I can assure you, the medicine is SECOND TO NONE."

The Atank Nigrah Pills

Cure Brain-fag, Constipation, nervous debility and other mental as well as physical disorders.

Price—Rupee ONE (32 Pills)

For a full list of all our preparations write to:—

Atank Nigrah Pharmacy,
JAMNAGAR (Kathiawar)
Bombay Office Kalbadevi Road.

SAVE EYES

of all troubles, even Cataract, Glaucoma, Granular Lids, etc., cured Without Knife, by our nature's remedy Cocoanut Brand "LOTUS HONEY"—genuine and purest in market. Cure guaranteed. Dram Rs. 2-8, 2 drams Rs. 4. Postage extra. Ask particulars.

NEW FORMULA CO., Kandi, Bengal.

Tel.—Ulser, Kandi.

Agents:—KEMP & CO., Charni Road, Bombay.

J. TIRTH & CO., Bunder Road, Karachi.

INSURANCE

Western India Life Insurance Co., Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE:—Satara City.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY

Valuation	Year.		Surplus disclosed.
First ..	1917	Rs.	11,532
Second ..	1920	Rs.	27,737
Third ..	1923	Rs.	1,16,544

No other Company started within 25 years could show equal results at the same age.

Excellent opportunity for reliable energetic men of position and ability to represent the Company.

For agency and other particulars please apply to:—

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR, Satara City.

The Bombay Chronicle

BUSINESS NOTICE.

BUSINESS communications of every kind (advertisements, changes of address, etc.) should be addressed to the MANAGER. Advertisements intended for insertion in the next day's paper must reach the office not later than 5 p.m.

ALL REMITTANCES should be made payable to the "Bombay Chronicle" and cheques crossed.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIBERS whose copies of the "Bombay Chronicle" are delayed in delivery will facilitate enquiry into the cause of the irregularity by noting the date of the paper on the wrapper and sending it to the Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily Edition.

	Local. Rs. as.	Mofussil. Rs. as.
1 Year	20 0	25 0
6 Months	10 0	12 8
3 Months	5 0	6 4
1 Month	1 14	2 4

Subscription to Foreign Countries Rs. 50 per year.

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.

SUNDAY EDITION.

	Local.	Mofussil.	Foreign.
Yearly	Rs. 3/8.	Rs. 4.	Rs. 7

PAYMENTS STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

The Sunday Edition must be subscribed for not less than one year.

SINGLE COPY ONE ANNA.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscribers who do not receive their copy of "The Chronicle" in time are requested kindly to furnish the following information to the Manager, Subscription Department:—

Name of Subscriber .....

Address .....

Register No. .....

Date of paper .....

Time of delivery .....

INSURANCE

THE UNIVERSAL

FIRE & GENERAL

INSURANCE COMPANY, Ltd.

(INCORPORATED IN INDIA)

FIRE, MARINE, MOTOR CAR

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

UNIVERSAL BUILDING,

CAWASJI PATEL STREET, FORT, BOMBAY

Managing Agents:

M. KANJI & Co.

RESPECTABLE AND INFLUENTIAL AGENTS WANTED FOR UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS.

INDIA PROVIDENT CO., LTD.

SPLENDID BONUS 25% of the premium refunded as Bonus.

Funds above Rs. 1 LACS.

The Safest Office for Life Insurance for the poor. Premium Re. 1 or 8 as. per month. Active and honest agents required on liberal remuneration. Apply at once to the SECRETARY, 29, Grey Street, CALCUTTA or to

Messrs. R. M. DIVADKAR & Co., Chief Agents, Esoof Building D'LiStreet, Mazagon, Bombay

HINDUSTHAN

Co-operative Insurance Society, Ltd.

Head Office:—CALCUTTA.

(A PURELY INDIAN LIFE OFFICE.)

ASSETS Exceed Rs. 85,00,000
NEW BUSINESS (1925-27) Over Rs. 72,00,000.

LAST BONUS (1922) Rs. 75 per thousand for five years.
NEXT BONUS (1927) is expected to be very substantial.

Liberal Conditions as to Automatic Extension of Assurance, Loan and Surrender Values, Revival of Lapsed Policies, etc.

Premium Rates (with profit) are sufficiently low and without Profit Rates are, perhaps, the lowest.

Insure with "HINDUSTHAN" and have the satisfaction of making provision for self and family.

Applications for Agencies are invited.

For particulars please write to:—

N. DATTA,
Manager,
Bombay Branch.

Commissariat Building, Hornby Road, Fort. BOMBAY.

Insure Your Motor Cars

WITH

THE VULCAN INSURANCE

COMPANY, LIMITED.

For Particulars Apply to:—

K. JIVRAJ & COMPANY,

PRINCIPAL AGENTS,

51-53, Bohra Bazar Street,

Tel. No. 25347. Fort, BOMBAY.

CLASIFIED ADVTS

Readers, Private Short Advertisements are inserted in these columns at the following rates:—

HALF ANNA

PER WORD

Minimum Charge being Annas Twelve.

CASH MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER.

The full name and address of the advertiser is required, not necessarily for publication.

Advertisers who do not wish their names and adresses published will be given a Box number. The words: Apply Box No.—Advertisement Department, "Bombay Chronicle," to be paid for.

Answers to advertisements should be addressed as follows:—Box Number—Advertisement Department, "Bombay Chronicle" Office, Bombay.

Unclaimed replies to advertisements are destroyed after one month.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

WANTED.—An experienced GRADUATE or UNDER GRADUATE TEACHER for a Local High School. Apply to Box No. 2064, Advt. Dept. "Bombay Chronicle."
A R614

WANTED.—A PROFESSOR OF LOGIC for the Saadat College, Karatia on Rs. 125—5—150 p. m. Quarters free. Apply sharp stating native district, age, experience, caste, religion, and literary production, if any—SECRETARY, College, Karatia, (Mymensingh).
A 29738

WANTED.—(1) One SECOND CLASS ENGINEER, well experienced in working Saw Mill Plant. (2) One EXPERT in Sawing Timber logs with Saw Mill. (3) One CLERK, trained in type-writing well qualified in English at least undergraduate. Apply with testimonials noting age, qualifications, past service and minimum pay to:—RAJA GOKULDAS JEEWANDAS GOVINDDAS, Hanumantal, Jubbulpore.
A 29720

WANTED—CANVASSERS to sell our Ludhiana products, on pay or on handsome commission, security of Rs. 150/ most essential. Apply for terms to FAKIRCHAND PHULCHAND BANKERS, Ludhiana.
A. R62

WANTED.—UNEMPLOYED for immediate employment. No Commission. Form anna stamps. BHARATSEWAK CO., Naiwara DELHI.
A R616.

WANTED.—INFLUENTIAL and ENERGETIC AGENTS and CANVASSERS in Bombay for the East and West Insurance Co., Ltd. on liberal commission, salary or both. Apply sharp with testimonials, if any, to the SECRETARIES, 55, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay.
A 29668

WANTED.—AGENTS and CANVASSERS for infallible medicines for Gonorrhoea and Syphilis. Pay Rs. 50/- plus commission. Apply with references to H. BHATTACHARJEE AND CO., Sadarghat, Chittagong."
A R618

WANTED.—INFLUENTIAL AGENTS for the sale of "Bombay Chronicle", Daily and Sunday Editions. Apply for the Revised Terms of Agency to the MANAGER, "Bombay Chronicle", "Hari" Building, Old Custom House Road, Fort, Bombay.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs of general interest are invited from readers from all parts of India for publication in "The Chronicle." Preference will be given to topical photographs on subjects of political, general, engineering, scientific or other interest. Accepted photographs will be paid for on publication, at usual rates.

The Editor undertakes no responsibility for the return of unaccepted photographs, but every endeavour will be made to return rejected photographs, accompanied by stamped addressed envelopes. All photographs must be sent to the

EDITOR,
"Bombay Chronicle,
Old Custom House Road, Bombay.

HOUSES AND FLATS TO LET

TO BE LET—A well ventilated and lighted House in whole or pieces in Forbes Street, just opposite to Messrs. Greeves Cotton and Co. Apply to RAO SAHEB HARJIVAN VALJI 12. Champa Galli Kalbadevi Post.
C. R602

EDUCATIONAL.

CIVIL ENGINEERING SCHOOL, LUCKNOW.—(Managed by the Hindu Education, Society, registered under Act XXI of 1860) CANDIDATES for Subordinate Engineering Class of January, 1928, Session, are to apply to the undersigned immediately. Prospectus and application forms can be had from The PRINCIPAL.
M 29612

FOR SALE.

HALF-TONE BLOCKS of Topical Interest published in the "Bombay Chronicle," can be had FOR SALE or hire. Apply for Terms and Rates to the MANAGER. The "Bombay Chronicle," Hari Building, Old Custom House Road, Fort, Bombay.

MEDICALS.

BESCEN'S EYE DROP:—If you have lost your eye-sight, it will bring round within a fortnight. It cures all sorts of eye disease. No harm. Cure guaranteed. Rs. 5/- per phial nett.—Dr. B. K. CHOWDHURY, 26/2, Grey Street, Calcutta.
P 28515B

PUBLIC NOTICES.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS, Legal and Public Notifications are published in these columns at the following rates:—

	Per Column inch per Insertion.
1st Insertion	Rs. 7-8-0
2nd Insertion	Rs. 5-8-0
3rd Insertion	Rs. 4-8-0
4th and Subsequent Insertion	Rs. 3-8-0

Mofussil advertisers are requested to send remittance in advance and state clearly, whether they wish to insert their advertisements in these columns or in the classified short advertisement columns.

NOTICE.

IN order to enable adequate experiments to be carried out in the Unani and Ayurvedic systems of treatment and to provide facilities in these kinds of treatment for such of the public as desire it, the Municipal Corporation propose to grant subsidies to approved organisations operating on those lines within the limits of Bombay City.

The Managers of Unani and Ayurvedic institutions working within the City who desire to apply for such subsidies are, therefore, invited to write to the undersigned on or before January 31st, 1928, when they will be requested to supply information to enable the Corporation to judge of ther eligibility for a grant.

H. B. CLAYTON,
Municipal Commissioner,
for the City of Bombay.

Municipal Offices,
Bombay,
19th December, 1927.
29700

G. I. P. RAILWAY.

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED for the appointment, (which will be temporary in the first instance, for a period not exceeding one year) of Publicity Officer, G. I. P. Railway. Applicants should state their age, qualifications, and nationality. The salary offered will be according to qualifications. Applications, which should be addressed to the undersigned, should be accompanied by copies of certificates which will not be returned.

The successful applicant will be required to sign an agreement, which may be terminated by one month's notice in writing on either side. Other terms and conditions of service will be those usually applicable to temporary appointments.

T. G. RUSSELL,
Agent.
29722

PUBLIC NOTICES.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

THE BANK will be CLOSED on SATURDAY and MONDAY, the 31st instant and 2nd proximo, those days being Public Holidays (New Year), under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

J. G. RIDLAND,
Secretary and Treasurer.
Bombay 20th December, 1927.
29407

CAWNPORE MUNICIPALITY.

THE CAWNPORE MUNICIPALITY is replacing its Water Works Steam Pumping plant by an electric plant and offers it for sale.

Two sets of steam pumping plants complete with boilers and connections in good running order as specified below; complete or in parts.

The plant can be seen in use up to 10th of January, 1928, and will be available after dismantling by the middle of February.

Offers should be sent to the undersigned. ENGINES Worthington Simpson's Vertical duplex; low duty triple expansion engines with surface condensers double acting pumps capable of pumping 3,000 gallons of water per minute against a total head of 100 feet size of engines 8in. by 13in. by 21.5in. by 24in.

16in. diameter of main pump plunger, I. H. P. 125.

BOILERS:—Two Lancashire boilers of 25ft. by 6ft. 6in. each to work at 100 lbs. steam pressure with all necessary mountings and economiser of Messrs. Babcock and Wilcox Co.

S. N. TEWARY, D.Ph.,
Executive Officer,
Municipal Board, Cawnpore.
29737

TENDERS.

BIKANER GOVERNMENT.

TENDERS ARE INVITED and will be received by the undersigned up to the 15th January, 1928, for one Electrically Driven Pumping set to the following specification. Earliest possible delivery is very important and offers of a set having a slightly different output from that specified would not be objected to if such change will expedite delivery:—

One—Electrically-driven coupled, Centrifugal type pumping set, having an output of 120 G. P. M. and designed for a total lift from all causes of 210 feet. The pump should be provided with suitable half-coupling and complete with foot-valve and strainer, delivery sluice valve, non-return valve, pressure guage, priming cock, air-vents and a set of spanners and other necessary tools. It should be mounted on a cast iron bed-plate suitable for direct flexible coupling to:—

One—Totally-enclosed, drip-proof type electric Motor of sufficient horse-power for the above pump and designed suitable for current to the following particulars:—

Pressure—220 volts.
Direct current.
Speed—not to exceed 1,500 R. P. M.

The armature of the Motor should be mounted on ball or on roller bearings, and should be complete with suitable iron-clad starter, having over-load no-bolt releases and arranged for wall-mounting.

The bed-plate of the set should be suitable for mounting on a steel girder framework and holding down bolts suitable for the purpose should be included.

BENI SHIAM WAHIE,
Secretary, Stores Committee,
Bikaner State.
Bikaner, dated 23-12-1927.
29736

BOMBAY BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY COMPANY.

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED for the construction of a 750 feet long Carriage Inspection Pit at Bellasis.

Tenders will be received by the Superintending Engineer, Construction, up to 2 p.m. on the 16th day of January, 1928, and must be accompanied by a receipt showing that the sum of Rs. 2,500 has been lodged with the Railway Company's Treasurer as earnest money.

Tender forms, specifications and plans can be obtained from the Superintending Engineer, Construction's Office, 1st floor, General Offices, Annexe, on payment of a fee of Rs. 10 which is not returnable.

The undersigned does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender, and reserves to himself the right to accept any tender in part or whole.

M. W. BRAYSHAY,
Ag. Agent,
B. B. & C. I. Railway.
29723

AMUSEMENTS.

PATHE SUPER GAZETTE, Time: 6-15, 8-15 & 10 P.M.
PATHE CINEMA Royal Opera House.

During Xmas Holidays!

DAILY TWO SHOWS

MATINEE at 4-30 p. m. &
NIGHT at 9-30 p. m.

Opportunity for few days only on our way to sea Voyage !!

SENSATION
OF THE
SEASON

with entire new attraction
Prof. SHANKERARAO'S

KARLEKAR
Grand
Circus

and the largest Menagerie of wild beasts
Location:—NANA'S CHOWK
Gowalia Tank, Grant Road, Bombay

Book your Seats at the Circus Tent.

Universal Picture House
(PRECIOUS CINEMA, Lamington Road.)
TO-DAY....TUESDAY the 27th December
TAKE IT FROM ME
Starring the one and only
REGINALD DENNY
TO-MORROW WEDNESDAY 28th December
WINE
An interesting picture that will intoxicate with CLARA BON
Time and prices as usual.

AUCTION SALE.

BENNETT & CO.

120, APOLLO STREET, FORT.

AUCTION SALE OF VALUABLE FURNITURE BY ROBERTS AND WIMBRIDGE ALSO SOLID BLACK WOOD OPEN CARVED FURNITURE, JACOBEAN, DERBY AND CHESTERFIELD SUITES, NEARLY NEW COTTAGE PIANO, H. M. V. GRAMOPHONE AND OTHER VALUABLE FURNITURE OF DINING, DRAWING, VERANDAH AND BEDROOMS, ETC.

On THURSDAY, the 29th December, 1927, at 2-30 p.m. (3-T-) Messrs. BENNETT AND CO., are instructed to sell by Public Auction at "Carzon House," Apollo Bunder, opposite the Saluting Battery, very valuable and handsome up-to-date furniture, Jacobean sliding dining table, arm and without arm chairs, sideboard and dumbwaiters, rich glass crockery and silver ware, Persian and English carpets, electric lamps and fans, rich engravings and water colours, wall and table clocks, ice box, drawing room silk lined suites, Jacobean and leather cushioned Derby and Chesterfield suites, one nearly new cottage piano, H.M.V. gramophone, typewriter, rare and old open carved blackwood furniture, large and small writing tables, silver and book cases, reclining sofas, mirror almyrahs, dressing chest of drawers, wardrobes and cloth cupboards, one set Encyclopeadia and other valuable furniture of the whole flat. The property of K. McIver, Esqr., and others.

Catalogues are printed and the property on view.

BENNETT & CO.

A EUROPEAN VACATION—COLONIAL STYLE

Any reader who is planning for a Summer-in-Europe-vacation will be interested to read the experience of a New Zealander who with his wife has just completed a tour of England, Scotland and Wales, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, the Austrian Tyrol and Andora, which he carried out on trek lines.

The tourists landed in England from New Zealand in April, complete with camping equipment. They next searched the motor show-rooms for the car best suited to the purpose they had in mind and picked out the 15.9 hp. Morris-Oxford—a car which incidentally should be better known in this country. Having made this purchase they proceeded to adapt it for the trek. By laying the front seats with their backs on the floor-boards a comfortable bed was provided. A tucker box was attached to one running-board and opened out to form a table. The tent which had been brought from New Zealand covered the whole car and provided an extra room, as it were, outside that formed by the car body.

Thus equipped, the trekkers were able to camp out practically the whole time and to see the countries which were toured under very interesting conditions, avoiding charabanes and conducted tourists, living next to Nature and seeing the national life in its real state.

For such a trek, involving as it does the use of rough byways and tracks, the choice of the car is an all-important point. Sturdiness and the ability to negotiate really rough going are essential, as is also reliability of the first order, for one does not want mechanical trouble when one is "miles from anywhere" in the country. It is a tribute, therefore, to the British Morris car which was chosen on this occasion, that its owners are so pleased with it that they are taking it back with them to New Zealand, convinced that it is just what they need for satisfactory service in their home conditions.

GLOBE CINEMA.

A house that was packed to standing room at each performances yesterday at the Globe Cinema, Sandhurst Road, witnessed the first presentation in this city of "The Fast Mail," a William Fox production, with Charles Jones in the star role and Eileen Percy supporting him as leading woman. "The Fast Mail" has been put on by Fox with several added attractions in the way of extra thrills that gives Jones every chance to show that he is, indeed, an actor of action. Come what may in the way of stories, Jones always seems equal to the emergency, and puts them over with a punch. There is not a dull moment in the entire film. Climax follows climax and thrill mounts on thrill during the course of this cyclonic melodrama. "The Fast Mail" crowded the famous Strand Theatre in New York City for an entire week and proved that good, strong melodrama is just as popular with the present generation and with it as with the theatregoers of other days. The story starts at the historic Dixie Land Steeplechase and pictures some of the fastest dare-devil riding ever shown on the screen. The hero was fouled during the running of the girl he loved. Crooked gamblers who had the girl's brother in their power had fixed the race, so that they would win the money. During the argument over the division of the stake, one of the gamblers is shot and the other one decoys the heroine into an automobile. The hero follows and the most exciting pursuit ever screened, follows. The picture is a real hair raising thriller and in the words of William Fox, its producers, is an "honest melodrama." It is worth seeing more than once.

Programme also includes two reels Charlie Chaplain comedy "Charlie's Night Out" and also H. M. the King of Afghanistan visits to Race Course, departure to Europe, Garden Parties, Juma Masjid, Dongri, H. E. Lord Irwin visits to Boy Scouts at Race Course, etc., etc.

A reward of Rs. 1,000 has been offered for facts and information leading to the arrest of person or persons responsible for the acoity in Mr. Ambalal Sarabhai's house, Ahmedabad which took place on December 3.—Free Press.

THREE WOMEN ASSAULTED

ONE DIES OF INJURIES

INCIDENT AT FALKLAND ROAD BROTHEL

How a prostitute was done to death at Falkland Road on X'mas eve was narrated at the Coroner's Court on Monday by another prostitute who was an eye-witness to the outrage. It appeared from evidence that Abdul Rehman, a Mahomedan was employed in a tea-shop owned by a Mogul at Falkland Road. He went to a brothel near his shop belonging to Taibai accompanied by another sergant Lala Fazluddin and gave a push to Sakubai an inmate of the brothel. Sakubai abused Abdul Rehman and complained to Taibai, the brothel keeper who reported to the Mogul, Hotel-keeper, master of the suspect. This enraged Abdul Rehman, who went with three hirelings to the brothel and assaulted Gangubai, a prostitute. Taibai, hearing Gangubai's cries went to her rescue, but she too was assaulted, thrown down and stabbed on the chest. They then went to another inmate of the brothel named Tambai and stabbed her on the stomach. Inspector Gole being informed of the outrage went to the spot and removed the three injured women to the hospital, but Gangubai died on the way. The assailants are still at large.

The Coroner after recording the evidence of Sakubai, who was the eye-witness, postponed further hearing.

FATAL FALL FROM LOFT

A fatal accident occurred in a tobacco godown at Custom House Road on the 13th instant, in which a woman, Parvatibai Ramchandra Govind (30), working as a coolie in godowns, fell down from the loft nearly 11 feet high, and got her skull fractured. She was immediately taken to the hospital where she died on Saturday. Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of death by haemorrhage due to fracture of skull.

FATAL BURNS.

Krishna Manaji residing at Ghatkoper, was warming himself before a sigree on the 19th instant when his clothes caught fire and he sustained injuries. He was removed to the K. E. M. Hospital where he died on Monday.

ANOTHER CASE OF FATAL BURNS

Dhondi Rama, a Hindu, was found lying at the Esplanade Maidan with his face burnt on Sunday last. He explained to the police who removed him to the hospital that while warming himself before fire he sustained burns. He died soon after admission to the hospital.

DR. KITCHLEW IN CALCUTTA.

(From a Correspondent.)

CALCUTTA, Dec. 25.

Dr. Kitchlew, Secretary All-India Muslim League, has arrived at Calcutta this morning. He was accorded an enthusiastic reception at the Station by the members of the Reception Committee. The office of the Muslim League is located at 13|1, Wellesley Square. Prominent members of the League from all parts of the country are expected to attend. Sir Abdur Rahim is taking active interest in the affairs of the Reception Committee. The Reception Committee has been doing its work vigorously and arrangements are in progress. All correspondence to be addressed to the Secretary, Reception Committee 8|1, Maharani Swarnamoyee Road.

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BHARATPUR INQUIRY

ACUTE RESENTMENT AMONGST PRINCES

GOVERNMENT FLOUTS 1920 RESOLUTION

(Free Press Special.)

DELHI, Dec. 22.

It was stated in the Press that "The Daily Telegraph" of London confirmed the reports in India that His Highness the Maharajah of Bharatpur had accepted the Commission of Inquiry but denied the suggestion that the Standing Committee of the Princes' Chamber were intensely agitated over the question and regarded the cause of Bharatpur as a test case affecting their whole Order.

The Delhi representative of the Free Press of India who was requested to make enquiries in this connection informs:

The Bharatpur question is looming large on the horizon. It is difficult to foretell the line of developments because in this particular case, the Political Department of the Government of India have come into conflict with a Ruler of great individuality and considerable independence of spirit. If the Political Department were presided over by an official of sympathetic understanding, the story might yet be differently written. Lord Irwin is reported to be a man of great insight into human nature and gifted with a sympathetic understanding and since his Excellency presides over the political portfolio, there would be reason to hope that even if sympathy and imagination were lacking in the permanent officials of the Department, what is lacking in them would be supplied by his Excellency. But, enquiries, which I conducted, showed, that whosoever might be the official mouthpiece of the Political Department, the spirit that rules is, to borrow the words of an Indian Prince, with whom I discussed the question, very much akin to the Prussian spirit.

VITAL POINT AT ISSUE.

I was shocked at this intensity of resentment and sought the reason for it. With much reluctance, the story was given, the whole of which I am not free to disclose, but I am permitted to give the Press an indication of the strength of feeling in the matter amongst the Princes. The Princes do not want it to be understood that they regard the affair of Bharatpur as an isolated incident, unconnected with the future of their Order. On the contrary, I understand, they hold that apart from the merits or demerits of the points at dispute between the Government of India and the Maharajah of Bharatpur, the entire spirit in which the question is being dealt with, affects every member of the Princes' Order, however high or low.

As far as can be gathered, the issue which agitates the Princes is not as to what happens personally to the Maharajah of Bharatpur, although many of them feel very much concerned because of the ties of personal friendship between them and the unfortunate Ruler, but how far is a Prince, who dares to be independent and impatient of the tiny and large gods of officialdom, is immune from petty harrasments and persecutions,—as they are inclined to view it,—from which they feel they have a right to perfect immunity.

For instance, in regard to the Maharajah of Bharatpur, the Government of India offered His Highness the option of a voluntary abdication or acceptance of a Commission of Inquiry. His Highness accepted the inquiry and as far as the Princes are concerned they would be perfectly satisfied if the spirit of the Government of India resolution of 29th October, 1920, under the terms of which, the inquiry will be held is adhered to. But, the complaint is that the spirit of the resolution is completely ignored and a Prince is denied even the ordinary privileges which an ordinary citizen enjoys in similar circumstances.

In the words of the then Viceroy, the resolution embodied the "desire of the Government of India to afford the amplest security against any risk of hasty or arbitrary treatment" of the Princes. The resolution provided that whenever in the opinion of the Governor General the question arises of deposing of a Ruler of an important State temporarily or permanently of any of the rights, dignities, powers or privileges, to which as a ruler he is entitled, an enquiry shall be held and that (1) the Commission shall be constituted in a prescribed manner, (2) the ruler concerned shall have the right to object to any Commissioner appointed, (3) shall be represented by counsel, (4) shall be entitled to have the proceedings of the inquiry published or not published as he wished, and (5) shall have right of appeal to the Secretary of State for India against any decision of the Government of India.

"It is clear as day light," said the Prince whom I was interviewing, "that whatever may be the crime of the Maharajah of Bharatpur, he was entitled to the safe-guards offered by the procedure indicated as stated in the resolution of 1919. But, instead, what has happened is that even before an enquiry has been held, His Highness has been told that he should consent to what is virtual though temporary deposition by (1) leaving the limits of Bharatpur territory, (2) abstain from taking any share in the administration of the State and hand over the administration to an officer selected by the Government of India. The resolution of the Government of India, referred to, said the Prince, never contemplated that a Prince shall be deposed, though temporarily, and then an enquiry should be held into his conduct. The Princes have their enemies and if it is not enough that a Prince should be liable to be confronted at any time at the discretion of the Government of India with the option of an inquiry or abdication, but must have added to it enforced temporary abdication, whether guilty or not, no prince can feel safe for a moment. Any disgruntled Dewan or petty official may bring a Prince into the disgrace and humiliation of a temporary deposition and an inquiry.

NO CHOICE LEFT.

The Maharajah of Bharatpur consulted the members of the Standing Committee of the Chamber of Princes more on this proposal to compel him to abdicate for practical purposes during the period of inquiry than on the issue whether to accept the inquiry or not. The Maharajah, as far as we could see, said the Prince, had no two opinions about choosing between an inquiry and an abdication. His Highness was prepared to face an inquiry. But, the question His Highness addressed us was: Should he consent to the enforced temporary deprivation of his powers. We had no difficulty in advising His Highness not to consent to this humiliation which was entirely unauthorised by the procedure or principles of the resolution of the Government of India.

But the question did not end here. His Highness's intention to protest against the proposals for temporary deprivation of powers and to appeal to the Secretary of State on this preliminary issue has been made known to the authorities and we are awaiting the answer. But we have reasons to believe that the Secretary of State has already been consulted by the Government of India and it is with his knowledge and consent that the Government of India are acting. If this be so, it raises very grave issues, said the Prince, and we have asked Sir Leslie Scott in England, who advised the Princes' Delegation on the question of their rights and privileges, whether he could conveniently come to India and advise us as an eminent lawyer. In the meanwhile, we are taking eminent Indian legal opinion also. But, this is not the only thing which is troubling us. The Standing Committee of the Princes sent an accredited spokesman to bespeak his Excellency the Viceroy's personal intervention to avoid unpleasant developments and request that a via media be found which would protect the Princes' rights and privileges, but at the same time meet the needs of the case from the Government's point of view. His Excellency the Viceroy graciously referred our representative to the Political Secretary and the Agent to the Governor General for a discussion of the formulas of compromise. And, when the accredited spokesman of the Standing Committee of the Princes' Chamber, the Ruling Princes, whom we regard as our leader, met these officials, he was handed a paper in which terms, which we regard as ridiculous, were put forward and he was told bluntly that there was nothing to discuss and Bharatpur might decide whether to accept the terms proposed or not.

The feeling uppermost in the minds of us Princes, said the Prince, is that we are meaner than even our meanest subject and we hold our very existence at the discretion and pleasure of a body of officials with whom if we are fortunate we may get on well and if we are not fortunate, we shall find ourselves driven to eat the humble pie or face what is certainly ruin

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INDIANISATION OF RAILWAYS

SEPARATION OF AUDIT FROM

through a competitive examination conducted by the Public Services Commission. However, there will be time for the members of the Assembly to reconsider their attitude when the results of experiments are placed before them either to scrap the scheme or to insist on fresh recruitment through the medium of the Public Service Commission, and no one alleady in employ who did not pass this test should be confirmed. Then alone will Indians have a chance of appointment on merit.

THE DICKENSON REPORT.

While the Railway Board fears the Members of the Finance Committee, may not agree to sacrifice the interests of the tax-payer by agreeing to the extension of the scheme of separation, a special effort will be made by them to appeal to the members to accept the Dickenson Report even in part on an experimental basis. It may be said by the way that Sir Arthur Dickenson, too, has written against the Accounts Department being made directly responsible to the Financial Commissioner of the Railway Board. The plan with regard to the disposal of the Dickenson Report is to present it in parts, because the Finance Committee will not swallow it all of a sudden, but if the members discover this insiduous game, they will knock the proposal of importing European Chartered Accountants on the head. The solution of the Railway vagaries and extravagances is not to be found in the employment of costly European Chartered Accountants but in setting up an independent audit and tightening it up. If there is one branch in which the late Mr. Montagu said, Indianisation could be worked completely and successfully, it was the Audit and Accounts, and it is surprising, therefore, that far from yielding their present [illegible] European interests are trying even to break through the Indian Accounts and Audit cordon. A grave responsibility, therefore, rests on members of the Railway Standing Finance Committee when they meet next. On their vote will depend the safeguarding or sacrificing of the vote-

"DEVELOP SWARAJ CHARACTER"

the Anjuman.

The Muslims of Kathiawar were earlier than the Muslims of Gujarat to awake to the acknowledgment of the utility of holding educational conferences. They had held he first sitting of the Kathiawar Muslim Educational Conference in 1911 at Porebunder, but as the atmosphere then was not congenial to that kind of work, the undertaking had to be given up for a decade, and when a proper opportunity came round the Conference, was again revived in the year 1916. Five annual sessions were thenceforward progressively held, and to do practical work and carry out the resolutions of the Conference, the Kathiawar Muslim Educational Association was established, but it must regretfully be said that when Mr. Munshi Gulam Mohammad, barrister-at-law of Rajkot, the able and energetic Honorary Secretary of the Confereence and the Association, on account of certain reasons, resigned his secretaryship, no body could work in his stead. The result inevitably was that both the institutions had be dormant since.

Our brethren of Gujarat, those of Ahmedabad amongst them in particular, used to take a special part in that Conference; and now that they by establishing this new conference and having widened the field of its action by adding the word of Kathiawar with that of Gujarat in its name, have taken upon their own shoulders the whole burden, so to say, of the education of the Muslims of Kathiawar, it behoves us, the Muslims of Kathiawar, to offer, for this kindness of theirs, our heartfelt thanks to them. But mere lip expressions will not do, unless we give a tangible proof of our gratefulness by practically helping the Conference as much as possible to make its work successful.

ideal husband, in a way. That is, when not possessed of the devil of ingratitude, you will take great care of your children who will be all rosy-cheeked and in number, the baker's dozen—the figure 13 proving very lucky in your case, paradoxical as it may sound to the superstitions. You will rear them up nicely, and when they lose the sweet protection of their mother, you will act both as father and mother and nurse them well, doing all work except that of a wet nurse. You are warned against giving them a step-mother—which will prove to be a step to the road of ruin.

from the ancient Hindu scriptures which were written in Sanscrit. "Swarajya", in the opinion of the speaker, was originally a political expression which was taken advantage of to explain the spiritual concept. It was common experience that they tried to explain the spiritual concepts by some familiar terms. The ancient history of India gave unmistakable proofs that in the time of the Upanishads the words "Swarajya" and "Swarashtra" were used in common parlance to explain popular political concepts. In ancient times India had republics and constitutional monarchs. Indians in those days were not governed by tyrants and despots.

AGAINST SOCIAL BONDAGE

Proceeding Mr. Pal asserted that the movement of freedom could never start unless there was pain of bondage. The greater the pain of bondage the greater and keener was the yearning for freedom. In modern times when the Brahmo Samaj movement was started in India peonle suffered from the pain arising out of social and religious bondage rather than political bondage. Social grievances in those days were innumerable and unbearable. There was the bondage of purdah, the bondage

NERVOUS DEBILITY
LACK OF VITAL FORCE

he joined the Samaj, he continued, he was treated as a "pariah" in his own house. His father would not take food with him nor would have any kind of social intercourse with him. He was an outcast in his own family and house. His was not an exceptional example, but it was only typical of all the Brahmos in those days. The Brahmos fought for a cause and no doubt won it by making a tremendous sacrifice for it.

SWARAJ CHARACTER

Coming to the present times, Mr. Pal observed that the only bondage which pained them acutely was a political bondage. The spirit of the Brahmos and of all true sons of Motherland, the speaker went on to say, must rise in revolt against the political bondage under which India was at present labouring. The politicians ought not to forget, added Mr. Pal, that the Swaraj constitution could never be built up among a people who had not acquired Swaraj character. They could not, moreover, have Swaraj without a strong, civic consciousness. There must be complete religious toleration as a condition precedent to the achievement of Swaraj. Mr. Pal concluded: "Nation building will never be possible in India unless we are prepared to revere religions of other people as our own. That is the spirit of Brahmo-Samaj since the early days of its founder, Raja Ram Mohan Roy."

BHARAT SPG. AND WG. CO., LTD.

The seventh ordinary general meeting of the Bharat Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., which was held at the registered office of the Company in Bank Street on Friday afternoon, was by no means a tame affair as such meetings usually are. Quite a number of shareholders had a mutual understanding. Another shareholder begged of the Directors to have mercy upon the shareholders who were the real losers in the game. Mr. Maghaji Jivandas held that if no dividend were to be given to the shareholders the Agents also should be prepared to part with their commission. Mr. Nensey Madhavji was very trenchant in his criticism of the management of the Company. He wanted that the business of the Company should not be a family concern.

In his reply, Sir Purshotamdas assured the shareholders that the Board were doing the utmost to protect the interests of the Company in the best manner they could. It was no fault of the Directors if the Company was not in a position to make substantial profit. Continuing he said if any shareholder came forth with any constructive suggestions that would bring more profit to the Company, he was perfectly willing to consider them and so also the Board.

After a little tussle, the resolution for the adoption of the report was carried by a majority. Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas and Mr. Valji Naranji were then re-elected Directors, and the meeting dispersed.

MR. [illegible]W AND FILM EXHIBITORS

Mr. [illegible] has criticised most things in his time but until to-day I do not think he has taken up the films seriously, writes the London correspondent of "The Manchester Guardian." Recently he visited a Surbiton studio where the fascinating pictures of nature life are made by an ingenious combination of microscopic photography and rapid motion. He appeared at the trade show of some of these pictures at the Pavilion Theatre to-day and de-

only the saintly consciousness capable of such surprise us. If the exhibitors must have romance there is plenty of it in the birth-pangs of the moth breaking from the cocoon or in the loves of the flowers—this last a beautiful record of fertilisation. Again, if ugliness and savagery are wanted, they are supplied by fierce insects called the devils coach horses which, under the magnifying power of the camera, are seen behaving like dragons of the prime.

PHYSICAL CULTURE FOR YOUTHS

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO EVOLVE SCHEME

(Free Press Special.)

MADRAS CONGRESS CAMP, Dec. 25.

The Physical Experts' Convention under the auspices of the Indian Youth Congress passed resolutions of importance regarding physical culture at this morning's session. The meeting resolved to evolve a system of physical culture for boys and girls of India. A Committee was appointed to draft the system with powers to co-opt. The Committee consists of Prof. Ramamurthy, Mr. Hardikar, Mr. Lakshmipathi, Swami Anand, the Assistant Physical Director of the Government of Madras and of India, and Mr. M. V. Krishna Rao. The meeting also resolved that the Indian system of Asanas and Pranayama is the best means for preserving grace and symmetry of the body. In this connection there was a heated discussion on the relative merits of Prof. Ramamurthi's and other systems represented by the Physical Directors of the Government of India and of Madras. Dr. Muthu, the Tuberculosis Expert, Sadhu Vaswani, Mr. K. D. Shastri, Dr. M. Devi of Lahore and others attended the meeting.

BIG PRIZE FOR MAHARAJA OF RAJPIPLA

EXCITING FINISH AT MONDAY'S RACES

GIFT O'GLEN ANNEXES VICTORY PLATE

Following close on Saturday's meeting Monday's holiday fixture was poorly attended. The racing was exciting though small fields gave backers little scope for wagering.

Godfery experienced a pleasant change of fortune and brought off a fine double with Eltonian and Gift O'The Glen. Townsend was associated with these successes it being a long time since we have seen this popular rider first past the judge. McQuade also steered a double, his dashing riding of Sabiq being a feature of the afternoon's racing.

The big prize went to H. H. Maharaja of Rajpipla through the medium of Gift O'The Glen. This is the first winner for the popular purple livery so far.

Twelve runners lined up for Division I of the Borivli Plate in which Roulette and Rajib attracted the most betting. Baig had a big following which he rewarded by winning comfortably from Roulette. Rajib fast improves and ran very creditably to secure a minor placing.

Haboob repeated a winning performance on taking the other division. Easton was again associated with this success and gave Mr. Rehman's grey every assistance. The favourite, Tientsin could not manage anything better than a third Saifulzzaman separating him from the winner.

The race for the Rous Handicap saw the once useful sprinter Eltonian to the fore after a long spell of ineffectiveness. The son of Taloist showed his customary speed and kept going long enough to stall the late challenge of Bridault. It was a welcome success for Townsend who has long been out of touch with fortune. Bridault's running suggested that a longer distance would have suited him.

Mr. Gahagan's Polychrome proved an expensive failure in the Longfield Plate where he was never over "evens" in the betting. The prize was disputed by Coq A L'Ane and Bridgman, the former asserting his superiority by a small margin. Starboard made a lot of the pace but was fast losing ground in the final stretch though he kept the favourite out of a placing.

McQuade steered Sabiq to victory in the second division of the Marine Lines Plate. It was an exciting finish nearly half a dozen horses battling for honours in the last hundred yards. Ridden behind for a part of the journey Sabiq came right through the field and after a sharp struggle accounted for Savage. Hawad and Weldon finished third and fourth respectively in close order.

Godfrey completed an agreeable double when Gift O'The Glen captured the valuable Victory Plate. Townsend was again the successful pilot and rode a well judged race. Iron Guard made the pace a cracker until the turn for home but the run to the judges' box was a spectacular affair. Ridden in the middle division Gift O'The Glen came to the front from the distance and successively evaded the challenge of French Briar and School Boy. Best backed were Tristan and Coed Canlas went out of it after a mile had been accomplished.

A big surprise awaited backers in the Lewis Plate in which the favourite Sinhagad went under to an unconsidered outsider in Knight's Cross. The winner was very well ridden by Rankin. He is a well bred colt by Battle-Axe-Silene and this was his first success in the country. Pursued gave a much improved display and is undoubtedly coming on. Glen Tree's effort came late, but he was finishing on.

Jodi won the last race of the day in the colours of Mr. Askuran. The grey had run a good race in the Irwin Cup the other day and improved on that exploit to beat a useful lot of runners yesterday. He was hard ridden to hold the challenge of Hilaluzzaman who must win a race before many days have passd Belan was again in the limelight and it is obvious that he is a very fit horse at the moment. About the best backed in the field Anwar lost several lengths at the start but made up ground very fast and led the field in characteristic fashion for three parts of the journey. His early effort however had taken too much out of him, for he had no reserve left when it came to serious racing.

THE BORIVLI PLATE. Div. I.—Distance 1 1|4 miles.

Winner Rs. 1,500; second Rs. 500; third Rs. 250. For Arabs in Class III.

Mr. Ayub Asad's BAIG 8-8, Bowley .. 1
Mr. Eve's ROULLETTE 7-5 (car. 7-8), C. Hoyt 2
H. H. the Maharaja of Kolhapur's RAJEEB 8-9, Perkins 3
Mr. D. Patel's ROUMANIA 8-10 (car. 8-11), Easton 4

Also Ran:—Ghurfa 9|4, Kurvir 8|11, Walida 8|10, Noor Mahal 8|8, Chaldean 8|8, Taffah 8|1, Garibulmulk 8|1 (car. 8|2 and Kubeshan 7|5.

All Ran.

The Race:—From a fair start Rajeb flashed out for a space but on settling down Taffah led Rajeb, Kubeshan, Roumania and Chaldean. At the mile Taffah held a comfortable lead, Rajeb coming next with Chaldean and Roumania, Roulette raced among the rear division. The same order prevailed until the turn where Baig came through in the rails and went on to win in spite of Roulette's challenge.

Won by 1|2 length, 1 length, 3|4 length. Time.—2mins. 22 2|5sec.

First tote paid Rs. 42-8 for win and Rs. 14-8, Rs. 15-8 and Rs. 46-8 for places.

Second tote paid Rs. 20 for win and Rs. 7-8, Rs. 8 and Rs. 20-8 for places.

Favourites:—Roulette and Rajeeb Bracket.

Winner trained by Moosa.

THE BORIVLI PLATE. Div. II.—Distance 1 1|4 miles.

Winner Rs. 1,500; second Rs. 500; third Rs. 250. For Arabs in Class III.

Mr. Khadavi A. Rehman's HABOOB 813, Easton 1
Mr. N. Ardeshir and Aga Cumberally's SAIFULZAMAN 8-8 (car. 8-7), Khalil 2
Mr. Eve's TIENTSIN 8-8, C. Hoyt 3
Mr. K. A. Hilaly's GANAM 8-1, A. J. Obaid 4

Also Ran:—Saad Salaam 9|1, Shahzaman 8-9, Roi de Lair 8|8 and Valentino 8|8.

Not Run:—Waterloo II, Noman, Maharaja and Royal.

The Race:—Valentino made the early running attended by Saifulzaman and Tientsin. Haboob raced in the rear. They raced on in this order until the half-mile where Valentino began to lose ground. Saifulzaman took the lead at this stage and led Shahzamah and Tientsin into the straight. A furlong from home Haboob drew out and smothering all opposition won easily. Saifulzaman kept Tientsin out of the second placing.

Won by 2 lengths, 1 length, 1 1|2 lengths. Time.—2mins. 22 3|5secs.

First tote paid Rs. 39-8 for win and Rs. 14, Rs. 18-8 and Rs. 13 for places.

Second tote paid Rs. 18 for win and Rs. 7, Rs. 9, and Rs. 6-8 for places.

Favourite:—Tientsin.

Winner trained by Owner.

THE ROUS HANDICAP.—Distance 6 furlongs.

Winner Rs. 4,000; second Rs. 1,250; third Rs. 750. A Handicap for Horses which have not after March, 31st, 1927, won a flat race value Rs. 4,000 or flat races of the aggregate value of Rs. 6,000 or over.

Mr. Vivian's ELTONIAN 7-11, Townsend 1
Capt. J. Crawford's BRIDAULT 7-9, H. McQuade 2
Mr. Marquis' PACK UP 7-5 (car. 7-6), F. Black 3
Mr. Shantidas Askuran's DEFEND 9-7, Burn 4

Also Ran:—Restoration 8-9, and The Monk 8-5.

Not Run:—Vikramsinha.

The Race:—Eltonian shot to the front at the barrier rise and showed the way to Pack Up, Restoration and Defend. The first named was never headed and easily held the late challenge of Bridault. Pack Up could not stay home and was under the whip.

Won by 1 length, neck, neck. Time—1min. 12 4|5secs.

First tote paid Rs. 138 for win, and Rs. 53-8, and Rs. 18-8 for places.

Second tote paid Rs. 58 for win and Rs. 22-8 and Rs. 10 for places.

Favourite:—Bridault.

Winner trained by E. S. Godfrey.

THE LINGFIELD PLATE.—Distance 7 furlongs.

Winner Rs. 5,000; second Rs. 1,500; third Rs. 1,000. A Handicap for Horses in Class II.

Mr. C. N. Wadia's COQ-A L'ANE 8-8, H. McQuade 1
Mrs. J. Reynold's BRIDGMAN 7|12, C. Hoyt 2
Mr. Marquis' STARBOARD 8-9, Spackman 3
Mr. R. H. Gahagan's POLYCHROME 8-10, Bowley 4

Also Ran:—Krishnakumari 9-0, Songe Dore 8-0, Dark Blue 7-13 and Cuckoo 7-9.

Not Run:—Talaat Bey and Gift O' the Glen.

The Race:—A good start saw Starboard to the fore with Bridgman and Polychrome in chase. Krishnakumari and Coq-A'Lane came next and Songe Dore whipped in. Starboard brought them round but was joined by Bridgman in the run home. The pair was collared by Coq A'Lane who prevailed in the end by a neck. Polychrome struggled on to take the fourth place behind Starboard.

Won by neck, 1 1|2 lengths, 2 lengths. Time.—1min. 27secs.

First tote paid Rs. 42-8 for win and Rs. 17-8, Rs. 26 and Rs. 24-8 for places.

Second tote paid Rs. 29 for win and Rs. 10, Rs. 12-8 and Rs. 15 for places.

Favourite:—Polychrome.

Winner trained by Major A. W. Molony.

THE MARINE LINES PLATE. Div. II.—Distance 1 mile, 1 furlong.

Winner Rs. 2,250; second Rs. 750; third Rs. 350. A Handicap for Arabs in Classes I and II.

Mr. M. Najmuddin's SABIQ 8-4, H. McQuade 1
Mr. A. R. Taha's SAVAGE 8-10, Spackman 2
H. H. the Maharaja of Kolhapur's 7-12 (car. 7-13) Herbert 3
Messrs. A. R. J. Talib and A. L. J. Talib's WELDON 8-2, Burn 4

Also Ran:—Mooltan 9-0, Orange Blossom 7-13, Mayiah 8-13, White Cross 8-0, Sultan Beg 8-9, Azedin 8-8, Safety 8-4, Ahyid 7-13 (car. 8-0), Try Again 7-12, (car. 8-0), Amanra 7-11, (car. 7-12), Sannayet 7-4, (car. 7-6), Fairdoss 7-4 (car. 7-8), and Moosaad 7-4 (car. 7-5).

Not Run:—Cheerio.

The Race:—With the exception of Amanra the field was well away. Hawad immediately raced to the front and made the pace from Azedin, White Cross, Try Again and Savage. At the half way they were still racing in this order. Mooltan was hard, in the bunch. Hawad shared the way round but made way for Savage at the distance. Close home Savage, Hawad Weldon and Mooltan were in the front line but Sabiq swooped on them and got through to win cleverly. Savage was runner up and Hawad third, Mooltan falling away to nothing.

Won by 1|2 length, 1|2 length, head. Time.—2mins. 6 1|5secs.

First tote paid Rs. 85 for win, and Rs. 26-8, Rs. 24 and Rs. 46-8 for places.

Second tote paid Rs. 32-8 for win and Rs. 16, Rs. 15-8 and Rs. 23-8 for places.

Favourite:—Savage Bracket.

Winner trained by Mahomed Khalan.

THE VICTORY PLATE.—Distance 1 1|4 miles.

Winner Rs. 15,090; second Rs. 5,000; third Rs. 3,000. A Handicap for Horses in Classes I and II.

H. H. the Maharaja of Rajpipla's GIFT O'THE GLEN 7-11, Townsend 1
Messrs. N. Begmahomed and H. Ismail's FRENCH BRIAR 8-8, Perkins 2
Mr. Eve's SCHOOL BOY 8-13, C. Hoyt 3
Mr. J. N. DeSouza's MY REALM 7|5, R. Stokes 4

Also Ran:—Aborigine 9-2, —John Clanchy '-0, Coed Canlas 8-11, Cul de Sac 7-0, (car. 7-3), Candle Hill 8-9, Fun of the Fayre 8-8, Trajanus 8-5, Chrysolite 8-4, Prey 7-12 (car. 7-13), Iron Guard 7-10, Tristan 7-7 and Tycho 6-12 (car. 7-2).

Not Run:—The Count.

The Race:—A level break away: Iron Guard streaked away, with a long lead. A gap away come Trajanus, Cul de Sac, John Clancky and Candle Hill. At the mile post Iron Guard was several lengths ahead of Trajanus who brought up the rest. No change was observed in the running at the half mile. The field closed on Iron Guard at the turn and Gift O'The Glen got a clear run on the rails to take the lead. Near home School Boy, French Briar joined issue but Gift O'The Glen kept on to win from French Briar.

Won by neck, neck, neck. Time—2mins. 5 3|5secs.

First tote paid Rs. 102 for win and Rs. 45, Rs. 119-8 and Rs. 61 for places.

Second Tote paid Rs. 76-8 for win, and Rs. 26, Rs. 60 and Rs. 25-8 for places.

Favourite:—John Clanchey.

Winner trained by E. S. Godfrey.

THE LEWIS PLATE.—Distance 1 mile.

Winner Rs. 3,000; second Rs. 1,000; third Rs. 500. A Handicap for Horses in Class II which have not won a race after January 1st 1927, and all Horses in Classes III and IV.

Mr. Moosa M. Hoosain's KNIGHT'S CROSS 7-0, Rankin 1
H. H. Maharaja of Kolhapur's SINHAGAD 8-9, R. Stokes 2
Mr. John's PURSUED 8-12, H. McQuade 3
Mr. Eve's GLEN TREE 8-0, C. Hoyt 4

Also Ran:—The Sliding Stone 9-8, Wrigley's Gum (late Mashed Potato) 8-9, Golden Wattle 8-0, Mussolini 8-4, Royal Gem 8-2, Stormont 7-13, and Bentoi 7-11.

Not Run:—Theona.

The Race:—Golden Wattle commanded the field from the start, Sinhsgad, Pursued and Wrigley's Gum following next in order. The Sliding Stone dwelt while Mussolini also got away badly. Golden Wattle made way for Sinhagnd as they swung into the straight and looked a winner until challenged by Knight's Cross who came on the outside at a tremendous pace to win easily.

Won by 1 1|2 lengths, neck, 1|2 length. Time—1min. 40 2-5secs.

First tote paid Rs. 237 for win, Rs. 44-8, Rs. 16 and Rs. 30 for places.

Second tote paid Rs. 124 for win, and Rs. 18, Rs. 8-8 and Rs. 23 for places.

Favourite:—Sinhagad.

Winner trained by Owner.

THE MARINE LINES PLATE. Div. II.—Distance 1 mile, 1 furlong.

Winner Rs. 4,500; second Rs. 1,500; third Rs. 750. A Handicap for Arabs in Classes I and II.

H. H. the Maharaja of Rajpipla's Mr. Shantidas Askuran's JODI 8-6, Burn 1
Mr. H. M. Mahomed's HILALUZZAMAN 9-12, Easton 2
Mr. Rainey's BELAN 7-7, T. Rosen .. 3
Mr. M. C. Patel's NAJIAN 7-3, Ashwood 4

Also Ran:—Dilawar 9-4, Bucknell 8-1, Silver Thrush 8-1, Rarity 8-1, Rehearsal 7-11, Mijrin 7-5, Taimurlang 7-5, Arabian Star 7-4, and Anwar 7-3.

All Ran.

The Race:—Anwar lost nearly a dozen lengths at the start. Najian led in the first furlong from Jodi, Mijrin and Belan, Anwar caught his field after they had gone two furlongs and went ahead from the seventh furlong. Najian, Mijrin and Jodi followed in the order named. Anwar's strides began to shorten as they neared the turn and Najian was in charge at the head of the straight. Jodi soon collared him. Hilaluzzaman coming up fast from the bunch joined the leader but the former just kept going to win by a short margin.

Won by short head, 1 1|2 lengths, 2 lengths. Time—2mins. 4 3|5secs.

First tote paid Rs. 90-8 for win, and Rs. 36-8, Rs. 25 and Rs. 25 for places.

Favourite:—Arayian Star.

Winner trained by W. Buckley.

NIGHT JAR WINS VICEROY'S CUP

CALCUTTA RACES RESULT

CALCUTTA, Dec. 26.

APCAR PLATE.
Distance 6 Furlongs.

H. H. Aga Khan's QUINCY 9st-7lbs. A. C. Walker 1
Mr. A. A. Bowie's CLOUGHANE 8st 12lbs. Balfour 2
Mr. P. B. Asasia's WEDDING DAY 7st 12lbs. Howell 3
Mr. T. C. Galstaun's Goden Quest 9st. Riley 4

Tote paid: Rs. 39-1|2 for win, Rs. 24 1|2 and Rs. 27 for places.

THE VICEROYS CUP.
Distance 6 Furlongs.

Mr. A. A. Bowie's NIGHT JAR 9st-3lbs Balfour 1
Mr. Kelso's VENTOSE 9st 3lbs. Howell 2
Mr. C. N. Wadia's DOMESTIC BOND 9st. 3lbs. Sibbritt 3
Mr. C. N. Wadia's CAP A-PIE 9st 3lbs. Hutchins. 4

Tote paid: Rs. 94 for win, Rs. 19-8, Rs. 16-8 and Rs. 60-8 for places.

CURZON PLATE.
Distance 7 Furlongs.

H. H. Aga Khan's ECLAIR 8st 3lbs. A. C. Walker 1
Mr. Micu Aytins T. A. B. 8st. 9lbs. Parker 2
Mr. Paunick's GAUNTLET 8st. 11lbs. J. Brown 3
Mr. A. Curlender's Corhali 8st. 8lbs. Bond 4

Tote paid: Rs. 77-8; for win, Rs. 23-8, Rs. 15 and Rs. 42-8 for places.

XMAS HANDICAP (Div. 1).
Distance 7 Furlongs.

Mr. A. Med Eddi's JANNIE 7st. 8lbs Balfour 1
Mr. Panuick's WEST CROFT 7st. 13lb Brown 2
Mr. C. N. Donetil's GAINSTOWN 8st. 2lbs. Sibbritt 3
Mrs. Jmieu Anstin's Thundering Lion 9st. 11lbs. Parker 4

Tote paida Rs. 31-8 for win, Rs. 17-8, Rs. 79 and Rs. 23-8 for places.

KESTEVEN PLATE.
Distance 1 Mile.

Mr. H. G. Gregson's LONVARISSA 8st. 7lbs. Hutchins 1
Mr. P. B. Avasia's DIAGRAM 7st. 11lbs. Howells 2
Mr. H. K. Dey's TRUE GRIT 8st. 11lbs. Ringstead 3
Mr. Dee's Elusive 7st. 11lbs. Mackings 4

Tote paid: Rs. 92-8 for win, Rs. 16, Rs. 17-8 and Rs. 33-8 for places.

XMAS HANDICAP (Div. 2.)
Distance 7 Furlongs.

Mr. Eve's WELL COPPED 8st. 2lbs. Brace 1
Mr. Panick's BUCHANAN 7st. 10lbs. (car 7st. 11lbs). J. Brown 2
Mr. H. Leslie's ARRAN ROSE 8st. 11lbs. Hutchins 3
Mr. H. K. Dey's Sir Stinga 8st. 9lbs. Ringstead 4

Tote paid: Rs. 68 for win, Rs. 20, Rs. 16-8 and Rs. 26-8 for places.

ALL-INDIA VOLUNTEERS' CONFERENCE

PT. JAWAHARLAL ON OBJECT OF SEVA DAL

LACK OF RESPONSE FROM CONGRESS LEADERS

The fourth All-India Volunteers' Conference commenced its sitting this morning at nine with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the chair in the Subjects Committee pandal.

The proceedings commenced with the singing of national songs by the Volunteer Corps. Dr. U. Rama Rau read the welcome address as Chairman of the Reception Committee.

Mr. T. C. Goswami, the retiring president, in the course of his speech, complained that the Hindustan Seva Dal movement had not received proper response from the country though they had received support from an ex-Congress President. Then he explained the method of Seva Dal which was service and service in the most efficient form.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Pandit Jahawarlal Nehru then rising amidst cheers and applause delivered his presidential address in the course of which he explained about the object of the Volunteers of Seva Dal. He said that they had not been encouraged sufficiently by Congress leaders though they had many Congress leaders and members and patrons. They were prepared to take orders of Congress leaders as regards the works of Congress organisation, but they were unprepared to take advice as regards the internal work of the organisation. Then he complained about Provincial Committees for not organising volunteer boards in their places.

After his address was over Pandit Malaviya, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and others addressed the gathering.

Pandit Malaviya in course of his speech expressed his sympathy with the volunteer movement and impressed upon the audience the necessity for forming such an organisation, the necessity for forming them in each and every village. The Conference then adjourned.—Free Press.

THE LIBERAL FEDERATION

NEED FOR COURAGEOUS ACTION

V. N. N. writes:—

The National Liberal Federation of India holds, its tenth annual session in Bombay to-day. As may be recalled, the Liberals seceded from the Congress ten years ago in order to lend their united support to the Montagu-Chelmsford scheme of reforms. That scheme the Liberals all over the country found to be a distinct advance on the Minto-Morley Reforms of 1909, and, in certain respects, as was pointed out at the time by the late Mr. N. M. Samarth, the Montagu scheme went much further than the demands which the Congress itself had put forward. It was because the Liberals conscientiously believed that the Reform Act of 1919 was really framed in the very best interests of India, though they had themselves put forward a still more liberal instalment in the direction of responsibility, as their evidence before the Joint Parliamentary Committee will show, that, in face of public opinion to the contrary, they co-operated with the Government with the single aim of giving the Reforms Act a fair and unprejudiced chance of working out the good of their country.

On the eve of the Reforms came the Rowlatt Act and the now notorious Jallianwalla Bagh episode. That unhappy event brought in its train the Non-Co-operation movement of Mr. Gandhi. Whatever others may come to think of it Liberals they must be loyal to their principles at all costs. Whether in the Councils or out of them the leaders of the Liberal party have always striven and worked with the single aim of advancing their country's cause. During the ten years that the Liberal Federation has been in existence its voice has always been on the side of the people, whether the people have been with them or against them. Many of its leaders have served on committees and commissions of every description. And if we would but examine dispassionately their reports and findings on these bodies, we cannot help being convinced that, whatever else may be said of them, the charge cannot be laid at their door that they ever faltered to speak out their mind boldly, much less that they bartered away the interests of the country in exchange for greater access of power and influence either to themselves or to their party. After ten years of sound counsel and fearless adherence to principle the Federation meets in Bombay, where its first sessions was inaugurated at an equally momentous period in the history of their country.

To-day the chances for closing up their ranks and uniting for a common end are the greatest before all shades of political opinion in the country. As the Liberals mustered strong in Bombay in the year 1918 at the call of duty, so must the members of the Liberal party rally in large numbers round the Liberal flag now in 1927. The time and the hour demands it of them, that whatever they may decide upon at this juncture must be concluded with a united voice and after deliberate and calm judgment. The supreme issue before the Federation will be about the visit of the Statutory Commission to India in February 1928 and the attitude that it will advise the country to take in that matter. So far as the constitution of the Commission goes, there is a remarkable concensus of opinion among the leaders of all non-official political parties in India that it is far from satisfactory, nay, that it is highly unsatisfactory. But so far as the Commission itself is concerned, not a single responsible political leader in the country has spoken anything in entire approval either of its constitution or its personnel. The Liberals have braved the odium of their countrymen to remain true to their better judgment. Now that both the party and the country are faced with a momentous question in the shape of the Statutory Commission and their attitude with regard to it, the Liberals must, once again, take courage in their hands and decide wisely and firmly, without fear of frown or expectation of favour from any quarter.

If they fail the country at this hour of her supreme need, then they will not only be proving false to their great leaders of the past but they will write themselves down as weak and ineffectual in the future history of their country. Those who are not true to themselves can help none and will be helped by none. Now is the hour of our trial and by the manner of our conduct now we shall be judged by posterity. The party has suffered long enough for want of cohesion and strenuous work. Principles do not count until the men that stand for them do come forward and work through effective organisation and sacrifice. Whatever our strength, if we don't put it forward at this moment, we shall soon find our occupation gone and rightly. We appeal to all who are proud to own the name of a Liberal not to fail the Liberal cause at this moment. Let them not invent excuses for abstension from this year's sessions in Bombay. If they have honest differences, let them come together and argue out the whole case.

BOMBAY CITY & SUBURBS.

TO-DAY.

National Liberal Federation, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru presiding. Sir Cowasji Jehangir Public Hall, Mayo Road, 1 p.m. (S. T.).

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28.

National Liberal Federation, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru presiding. Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall, 12 noon. Second Day.

THURSDAY, Dec. 29.

National Liberal Federation, 3rd Day, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru presiding, Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall, Mayo Road, 12 noon.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.

The annual meeting of the Numismatic Society of India for the year 1927, will be held in Bombay on the 29th and 30th instant, in the Hall of the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India.

NATIONAL LIBERAL FEDERATION.

The Tenth Session of the National Liberal Federation of India will be held at the Sir Cowasji Jehangir Public Hall, Mayo Road, Fort, to-day (Tuesday), to-morrow (Wednesday) and Thursday, the 29th instant. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru will preside. The first day's proceedings will begin at 1 p.m. (S. T.). Members of the Reception Committee, Delegates and Visitors are requested to be on the seats by 12-30 at the latest.

MR. FENNER BROCKWAY

VISITORS FORBIDDEN IN HOSPITAL

MADRAS CONGRESS CAMP, Dec. 25.

Mr. Fennor Brockway who sustained a bone fracture in a motor accident few days back at Velore is undergoing treatment at the Madras General Hospital. A Free Press representative, who visited him last evening in the hospital found him looking cheerful. This morning under Doctor's advice visitors are not allowed to see Mr. Brockway as he is experiencing some pain in the leg and also having temperature.

The representative was informed that his recovery will be a slow process though there is no cause for anxiety.—Free Press.

A DREARY CHRISTMAS

LEADEN SKIES AND RAIN CAUSE GLOOM IN STREETS

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Leaden skes and heavy rain which started before midnight and continued, without panse, through the night and the next day gave London one of the dreariest Christmases on record. Dismal conditions extended throughout the South of England. The gloom, however, was confined to streets. In millions of homes it was a day of feasting and jollity. A part of the Proppy Day proceeds was devoted to entertaining 350 homeless and workless exservice men by the British Legion to a Christmas dinner at a West End restaurant. A number of firms and private donors helped to render the occasion a festive one.—Reuter's Special.

LAW and BUSINESS

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5. C. D. A. SOLUTIONS SUPPLEMENT 1925, Rs. 1-8-0.

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The Bombay Chronicle.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 27, 1927.

THE CALL TO UNITY.

When shall the saner softer polities,
Whereof we dream, have play in each proud land,
And patriotism, grown Godlike, scorn to stand
Bondslave to realms but circle earth and seas?

T. HARDY.

Dr. Ansari's Presidential address at the Madras session of the Congress is a statesmanly survey of the present situation in India and affords wise guidance in the struggle that lies before the country. He looks at the situation from the standpoint of a true non-co-operator, the essence of whose non-co-operation consists in intense co-operation amongst the people. His whole address is one long passionate appeal for such co-operation. Quoting from his own previous manifesto he says: "I feel as certain as ever that apart from very extra-ordinary and unexpected occurrences we shall win back our freedom only by self-discipline, self-organisation and self-help and through a movement in which we would be obliged to resort to direct action in some shape or form. I firmly believe that India is only recuperating from the moral and material effects of a disastrous war and would soon emerge once more resuscitated and rejuvenated to attain what it is destined to attain." He therefore urges that the country should lose no time in preparing itself for the next move forward and that "all our energies and resources be concentrated on fighting the enemy residing inside our body politic, namely, communal and political discord." In brief, his message is "Unity in the Country, Unity in the Congress, and Unity in the Councils, if people must still make use of them". If it is said that it is no new message, the only answer is that it has to be repeated every time people say and do things calculated to further divide the country.

UNITY IN THE COUNTRY.

Dr. Ansari is not content with giving or repeating the message of unity. He also offers wise suggestions to secure the unity he preaches. The greatest menace to unity in the country to-day is the habit that many have developed to exaggerate petty political or communal differences as if they were fundamental and incapable of compromise. It is unnecessary to refer to these petty differences here. Dr. Ansari only appeals to his countrymen to "differentiate between personal prestige and public weal and to sacrifice individual gain to the collective good." As regards the serious Hindu-Muslim differences he suggests that the Congress which has already taken the lead in solving many of the pressing differences, should complete its task "once and for all" as "there is no organisation more competent and better fitted to put an end to it than the Indian National Congress." He also suggests the encouragement and cultivation of cultural affinity by the establishment of national institutions where young people of both the communities can study the ideals underlying the civilisations of both. With greater knowledge of each other's deep rooted sentiments and sympathy for each other's ideals "questions of separate representation, cow slaughter and music before mosques will become matters of the past".

BOMBAY PACT.

Dr. Ansari whole-heartedly supports the resolutions of the All-India Congress Committee regarding joint electorates and allied questions. We need hardly add that he himself had no small hand in settling these questions. He rightly regards the Bombay Pact as "a great advance on the Lucknow Pact of 1916." His views on Muslim representation and the justice done to it by the A.I.C.C. resolution deserve to be carefully considered by all those who wish to restore Hindu-Muslim unity. He says: The one great cause of friction so far has been separate electorates. If the success of a candidate at elections depends entirely on the votes of his co-religionists, the tendency to exaggerate and accentuate points of communal friction and division in order to catch votes is inevitable. The resolution, while making the fullest possible allowance for the fear of minorities regarding adequate protection by reservation of seats, presents fresh opportunities for the development of a spirit of friendlines and mutual confidence, the best augury for a United India. The acceptance of the principle of representation on the basis of population puts our electoral system on a just and equitable basis. It puts an end on the one hand to the dissatisfaction felt at the preferential treatment accorded to minorities and on the other removes the grievance of the majorities in Bengal and Punjab which were reduced to minorities". This opinion is shared by most Congressmen and, as Maulana Mahomed Ali has stated, by a growing number of Muslims. There is not the least doubt that the Congress will confirm the Bombay Pact. We trust the Muslim League, the Liberal Federation and the Hindu Maha Sabha will also support it.

UNITY IN THE CONGRESS.

Dr. Ansari has laid special stress on a United Congress and wishes it to reflect the unity in the country. He suggests, therefore, that "the doors of the Congress should be thrown wide open to all parties and we should stop at nothing short of a surrender of basic principles to bring back every party to the Congress." He appeals to all those communities who wish to work in isolation from the Congress to "take a lesson from the experience of my co-religionists" He adds. "The Mussalmans of India allied themselves with forces other than national for a number of years and after experience found out that they could advance their interests only by joining the Indian National Congress and making common cause with the rest of their countrymen". It is to be hoped that the justice done to the claims of the Muslims by the Congress will reassure other minority communities and induce them to follow the example of the Muslims and the Non-Brahmins in joining the Congress. It is also to be hoped that the Congress on its part will respond to Dr. Ansari's appeal to throw wide open the doors of the Congress by shaping its policy so as to make it acceptable to the bulk of the country. The Khaddar franchise, we have no doubt, will be forthwith removed. But the Subjects Committee's resolution declaring the goal of the Indian people to be "complete national independence" may disconcert many Congressmen themselves. Apart from the logic of the resolution, which we do not deny, its practicability and acceptability to the parties and communities whose entry into the Congress is desired are matters of grave doubt. If it is desired that these parties and communities should join the Congress, attempts should first have been made to persuade them to accept independence as the goal. This procedure might not have been necessary if the Congress were meant to represent only one party in the country. But since the Congress wishes to represent the whole country, it should have proceeded more cautiously. It is this spirit of caution which has prompted the Elder Statesmen of the Congress to stand by the conveniently vague term "Dominion Status". They must realise now that the younger men make a natural though impetuous demand for being in this matter more explicit. Besides, in spite of the assurance given that the resolution does not involve a change in the creed of the Congress, it may be interpreted by some as a change committing the Congress to only one instead of more than one interpretation of Swaraj. This doubt again may hinder the fusion of all parties in the Congress fold. There is no self-respecting Indian who can withhold sympathy for the resolution but the very fact that the resolution gave rise to somewhat acrid discussion and is likely to cause a split in Nationalist thought does grave disservice to the need of the hour. That need is that the Congress should first be thoroughly united and unite the whole nation too before disturbing the creed of the Congress even by implication. Speaking generally, there can be no limits to the aspirations of a country. But the country as a whole should first be taught to realise the urgency of defining its aspirations and to be prepared to fight for those aspirations before the country's will is registered by its representative organisation.

UNITY IN THE COUNCILS.

Dr. Ansari's suggestions about the policy in the Councils are the same as those he offered in his earlier manifesto. The policy of complete co-operation, he points out, has been tried for over a generation but has proved a failure. Non-co-operation was tried but for a year and a half and he tersely describes the set-back it suddenly received by saying that "Non-co-operation did not fail us, we failed non-co-operation". The programme of constitutional deadlocks, though tried for over four years has not yielded the expected results. Dr. Ansari neatly explains the cause of its ill-success thus: "An ultra constitutional issue could not be fought on a strictly constitutional plane. In a trial of strength there can be no hope if your opponent is also the referee". Personally he does not believe in Councils but as Council entry has been permitted by the Congress itself, he suggests that the least that those Congressmen who go to the Councils should do is that "instead of allowing their opponents to take advantage of the division in their ranks they should join forces with other nationalist groups to form a People's Party of opposition and present a united front." Dr. Ansari has no doubt that the Congress will take a united stand against the Statutory Commission. He dismisses it with, but a paragraph saying that "we can have no part or lot in a Commission which has been appointed in direct defiance of the declared will of the people of India". He reiterates the demand for a Round Table Conference of Indians and British representatives "with plenipotentiary powers". He recommends at the same time the speedy preparation of the future constitution of India and the calling of a National Convenion for its adoption. He suggests that the Constitution should be of a Federal type "with the existing Indian States as autonomous units of the Federation."

ASIATIC FEDERATION.

Dr. Ansari carries his message of unity to its logical conclusion by calling upon the country to make common cause with the fellow victims abroad of Imperialism and Capitalism. The history of the "philanthropic burglary" of Europe, he says, "is written in blood from Congo to Canton". He therefore suggests that all the Eastern nations should come closer together and take a more intimate interest in the problems facing them so as to facilitate the formation of an Asiatic Federation adumbrated by the Deshbandhu Das The Subjects Committee has already anticipated the suggestions of Dr. Ansari by passing resolutions welcoming the formation of the League against Imperialism, conveying greetings to the people of China expressing India's sympathy in their fight for emancipation, and condemning the war measures of the British Government. We have not exhausted the points discussed by Dr. Ansari nor the wise suggestions he has made. His passion for organisation leads him to refer to a number of items of constructive work especially with reference to national health and physique. "Money can make trenches," he says, "but men alone can man them. The real defence of the country lies in tackling the problem of manhood and improving the general health of the nation." Altogether, Dr. Ansari's speech is a masterly review of the present situation, incisive in its analysis of facts, wise in its suggestions and intensely patriotic in every sentiment it expresses. His passionate condemnation of the inhuman treatment of the detenus reveals his love of liberty and his sympathy for every suffering Indian. It is the good fortune of the Congress that in these troublous times it has at the head a wise and patriotic leader, respected by all parties and communities. We fervently hope that during his pilotship of the Congress he will be able to fulfil his own message of Unity in the Country, Unity in the Congress and Unity in the Councils.

THE SIMON COMMISSION.

A BLESSING IN DISGUISE.

BY MR. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA
(Bar.-at-Law, Ex-Finance Member, Bihar and Orissa Government.)

We are again in the midst of a great political upheavel, brought about by the announcement of the appointment of an all-British Commission, to work out the future constitution of India. If it be—as many Indians believe—Britain's mission in India to act, from time to time, as a wholesome and beneficial irritant to the growth of Indian Nationalism, then the Tory Government may well be credited with having once more discharged that duty effectively. It is not surprising, therefore, that having made a careful survey of the unprecedented situation so created, educated Indians have felt it to be their duty to state as clearly as they can their position and opinion at this juncture in the history of their country. Public opinion seems to be almost unanimous that the appointment of an exclusive British Commission cannot but be regarded as a studied and calculated affront to India and a direct challenge to Indians in the matter of their indefeasible right to assist, on an equal footing with British representatives, in the shaping of the future constitution of their country.

NEGATION OF INDIA'S RIGHT.

It would serve no useful purpose at this stage to re-open the question whether a Round Table Conference—such as public opinion demanded—or a properly constituted Royal Commission would have been the most suitable machinery for the purpose. However that be, there is general agreement that the kind of Commission the British Government have chosen to appoint is not only highly arbitrary and grossly unfair to the inherent rights of the people of India, but that it is an arrogant assertion of British Imperialism and an absolute negation of India's right to take a prominent part and assist materially in the framing of her own constitution. The popular demand on the subject stands embodied in resolutions twice adopted by the Legislative Assembly, with almost the unanimous concurrence of the elected Indian members. But, apart from that, it is indisputable that all political parties and communities in the country had made it abundantly clear that they insisted upon the appointment of suitable Indian representatives, of equal status with the British, on any Statutory Commission to be constituted. In the circumstances, the total exclusion of Indians from the Commission is an arrangement which—howsoever convenient or acceptable it may be from the British standpoint—is not one in which any self-respecting Indian can at all acquiesce, much less accept as the final decree of Fate; for every thinking Indian feels that (in the words put into the mouth of Shylock by Shakespeare) His Majesty's Government have but "scorned my nation."

CAMOUFLAGE OF COMMITTEES.

In coming to this conclusion educated Indians have done—what have been repeatedly been asked to do—viz., kept in view the scheme "as a whole," and have carefully considered the proposals about the Committees of the Legislative Assembly and the Provincial Legislative Councils, on which His Excellency the Viceroy and the parliamentary leaders have expatiated in their statements and speeches made in connection with the announcement of the Commission. But it is clear on the face of it that the members of these Committees will not at all have the status—even ever so remotely—of that of the members of the Commission. They will not have—for they cannot have as outsiders—any access to the notes, minutes and other confidential documents which will be submitted to the Commission by the Central and the Provincial Governments, and will thus be unable (for want of inside knowledge) to meet the case that may be attempted to be made out against our political progress. Nor will they have vote or even any controlling voice in formulating the Commission's recommendations—the proposed Committees being purely consultative bodies. At best, these Committees will but say their say and then await the acceptance or the rejection of their views, just as the Commission—or later the Joint Parliamentary Committee—may please.

HUMILIATING POSITION.

In my opinion, therefore no more humiliating a position for these proposed Committees of the various legislatures could possibly be conceived, and I shall be surprised if a large number of members of the Central and the Provincial legislatures would be found willing to exercise their right for this purpose. For these reasons the educated public was justified in having unhesitatingly expressed its conviction that the Commission is wholly unacceptable to the thinking and politically-minded Indians, and as it has been constituted on the principle of a complete boycott of them, no self-respecting Indian can or should have anything to do with it, the best course thus obviously being to leave it severely alone.

HEIGHTENING THE INSULT.

But the grounds set forth for the extraordinary, indefensible and objectionable course adopted by the British Government are calculated, in my opinion, to still more deepen the sense of India's grievance. To say—as Mr. Baldwin did in the House of Commons—that the absolute exclusion of Indians is "a broad question of principle," is bad enough in all conscience. But to have bracketted—as His Excellency the Viceroy has done—the demand for Indian representatives with that of the representation of the British services and to say that if the former were to be appointed the latter also must, of necessity, be given representation on the Commission—in other words, the assertion that in the framing of the Indian constitution the representatives of the people of this country should enjoy no better or higher a status than that of the British services—is justly regarded as adding insult to injury, since it enunciates a proposition which Indians can never accept as politically sound. As for the view propounded that Indians had to be excluded as they are bound to be biased in favour of their claim to self-government, can it not be asserted with even greater show of reason that British representatives—albeit they be members of Parliament—are no less interested, by reason of their conscious or unconscious bias, in retaining Britain's hold over this country, and are thus not qualified for their task, unless it be in co-operation and equal terms with Indian representatives of equal status with them?

UNWARRANTED ASSUMPTION.

Read between the lines, the Viceregal pronouncement and the statements of the Parliamentary leaders and others—including the supporters (in the British and the Anglo-Indian press) of the Commission, as constituted—clearly imply that the view underlying the appointment of the exclusive British Commission is that the question of the political progress of India is one to be determined by the British Parliament and the British Parliament alone, and in which, therefore, India can not expect to have lot or part. I emphatically join issue with this view and repudiate any such unwarranted assumption. On the contrary, I maintain that although the British Parliament may enact legislation for India—as it did for Canada, Australia, South Africa and (last but not least) Ireland—the scheme to be embodied in any Indian Reform Bill must be one which should have been evolved as the result of the joint deliberations of Indian and British representatives of equal status as members of a Commission, acting together on equal footing, with equal powers and privileges. Lastly, if a mere expected unanimity of opinion be the criterion in the appointment of the Commission—which, it has been said "ad nauseam," would have been jeopardized by the representation on it of Indians—it would be distinctly interesting to have it authoritatively declared whether Sir John Simon (the Liberal leader) and his six colleagues drawn from the Conservative and the Labour parties have already given, in any shape or form, an undertaking or an assurance of presenting a unanimous Report! Thus put, this proposition has but to be stated to be rejected.

Surveying the situation carefully and anxiously, it seems that the British Government have but taken advantage of the unfortunate prevailing communal tension in the country to appoint a purely British Commission at a time when they believe our political forces to be at the weakest, and they evidently count upon the division in the Nationalist ranks to be able to work out a scheme which would perpetuate their hold upon the country. Further, the statement of Sir John Simon that "the Commission will not go to India with the idea of imposing Western ideas of constitutional reforms from without," seems to me to be highly significant and pregnant with the suggestion that under the guise of restoring or reviving some alleged indigenous system an attempt will be made to abrogate even the meagre Reforms already introduced. At any rate, the constitution of the Commission—the personnel of which has been justly subjected to animadversion by the London "Observer" and even by some of the leading Anglo-Indian papers—can leave no

(Continued on page 10.)

Notes of the Day.

Pocket The Insult!

Lord Sinha who is coming home "for a short time only for quiet and rest", feels impelled out of a sense of duty to take the trouble of addressing his countrymen on an important political question. Interviewed by Reuter on board the "Ravalpindi" he says that India will lose "enormously, irreparably" by boycotting the Simon Show. His lordship advises his countrymen, in effect, to pocket the insult, and warns his friends in India whom he finds on the side of the boycott that "they stand to lose grievously by the atmosphere they are helping to create". It is difficult for humiliated, insulted India to probe into his lordship's mentality. Perhaps his rooted prejudice against non-co-operation warps his better judgment so much as to render him totally incapable of appreciating the sense of humiliation, of damage to national self-respect which his brother Liberals like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Mr. Chintamani feel so keenly. The more is the pity.

The Contrast.

While Lord Sinha inveighs against the policy of non-co-operation with the Simon Inquisition it is refreshing to note how boldly and cogently a distinguished Indian leader, who has tasted the sorrows and responsibilities of office in the very province where Lord Sinha himself experienced them, marshals argument after argument for making out a convincing case for a total and effective boycott of the Simon Show. If there be any wobblers and vacillators at to-day's Liberal conclave who are under the delusion that the committees, which the bureaucracy hopes the legislatures will agree to appoint, will have co-extensive powers with the All-White Commission, they will do well to digest Mr. Sinha's lucid exposure of the camouflage about these committees.

Word In Season.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru did well to speak out his mind quite freely in his presidential address at the Fourth All-India Volunteers' Conference. He voiced the feeling of regret not untinged with resentment which many workers in the Hindustan Seva Dal movement share when he complained that "it had not been encouraged sufficiently by Congress leaders, members and patrons." The Dal volunteers were, he declared, quite prepared to take orders from Congress leaders as regards the work of Congress organisation. But he added a much needed word in season when he further observed that they were unprepared to take advice "as regards the internal work of the organisation." The Dal movement deserves abundant financial support from the Congress and the individuals in the country with the capacity to give financial assistance in a good cause. But it will be fatal to its healthy development if such donors think it legitimate to teach Dr. Hardikar and his trained and disciplined band of lieutenants how to get along with their specialized duties.

Emphatic Protest.

The State Subjects Conference at Madras will be called upon by its Subjects Committee to enter an emphatic protest against the appointment of the expert committee to inquire into and determine the future relationship of the Indian States with the Government of India. This is as it should be. We are confident the Conference will make such a protest but we would have liked it to call upon the Princes themselves to enter their own protest through their own Chamber. If the subjects of Indian States have reason for grave dissatisfaction at finding that the Butler Committee is not asked to include in its investigation the rights and privileges of the people of the States, the Princes have every reason too for being dissatisfied. As we have repeatedly pointed out no committee can command confidence in this country which does not include in its personnel an effective representation of those upon whom it sits in judgment.

Mr. Brailsford On Simon Show.

"God's Seven Englishmen have been appointed. They will draft a Constitution for India, and nothing that any of us, who are merely secular and uninspired Englishmen, may say or think can now affect the course of destiny. I confess that my first impulse on reading Mr. Baldwin's quotation from Milton was to laugh at its arrogance. The Puritans had the sincere belief that they were tools in the hands of a Creator, who continued to intervene in the daily course of history; it made for modesty and a grave seriousness. I doubt whether Lord Birkenhead and Lord Winterton have this belief; they lack the humility that should go with it. But on second thoughts I came to understand why Mr. Baldwin had referred to the hand of Providence in the choice of this Commission. Rarely has our destiny seemed to work so visibly and with a grip so imperious. The events of last week have settled the relations of our country with India for years to come. We have clothed ourselves, deliberately, consciously, in the eyes of the Indian people, in our rights as conquerors. We have done it, moreover, as a unanimous nation."
—"The New Leader."

MOTILAL'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

CALL FOR HINDU-MUSLIM RAPPROCHEMENT.

Political Freedom--the Dominant Issue.

"SAK" PLEADS FOR YOUNG COMRADES' LEAGUE.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.) MADRAS (Congress Camp), Dec. 26.

Enthusiastic scenes marked the opening of the forty-second session of the Indian National Congress under the presidentship of Dr. Ansari.

The pandal is the largest and the most magnificent one ever built is the history of the Congress, and to-day's attendance broke all records. The pandal is built to accommodate 20,000, but a such larger number assembled. In such a gathering, it was impossible for any speaker to be heard by all and the installation of loud speakers was much appreciated. As a demonstration of popular enthusiasm and expression of national will to freedom, there is, perhaps, no more remarkable gatherisg than a session of the Congress. But those who have carefully watched he proceedings of the Subjects Committee and to-day's meeting feel that drastic change in the constitution of the Congress and its method of conducting its business is imperative in order to make it a more efficient body for the great national purpose it is intended to serve.

To-day's sitting was noteworthy for the presence of many distinguished men who have hitherto kept aloof from the Congress including Sir Ibrahim Rahimtoolah, the Raja of Panagal, two Ministers of Madras and for the fact that two C. P. Ministers are attending it as delegates. Dr. Ansari's address was a clarion call for unity—unity in the country, in the Congress and in the Councils—and evoked much applause and general appreciation. The enthusiastic cheers which greeted his statement, "No-Co-operation did not fail us, we failed Non-Co-operation" indicated that hold which Non-Co-operation still has in the hearts and minds of the people.

Formal resolutions were put from the chair and the resolution about war danger was passed.

MADRAS, (Congress Camp) Dec. 26.

Impressive and solemn scenes marked the opening of the 42nd Session of India's National Parliament in Tilak Mandap, a mammoth pandal. Fine weather prevailed and brilliant sun shone overhead. The Session was programmed to begin at 2 p.m. From 12 noon delegates and visitors were admitted into the pandal and in less than an hour the pandal was filled everywhere. The pandal was simply and elegantly decorated. Tricolour flags were hung in every part of the pandal and the central pillars were covered with tricolour khaddar. Gaily coloured festoons were hung all around and portraits of leaders were fixed to most of the pillars. Inspiring mottos greeted the eye as one came up the main passage and the first appropriately read are; "we children to be examined". Others ran, "not for us to lower the flag". "India expects every man to do his duty, and we rise or sink together."

The dais was most artistically decorated. Under the brilliant canopy sat the President and by him were seated seasoned soldiers in our fight for freedom and the distinguished visitors whom the President had invited. On either side sat the members of the Reception Committee, A.I.C.C. members and donors and other distinguished visitors. Over the dais was painted the picture of Bharata Matha, and the painting bore the national symbol, Charkha, and the national cry "Bande Matram". Artistically arranged festoons of coloured lights heightened the effect. Loud speakers were installed in the pandal and they carried the speeches to the remotest corners of the pandal. About 50 yards down the dais was put up the rostrum for the speakers and underneath it was a large size portrait of Mahatmaji. The hugeness of pandal the hugeness of the gathering the enthusiasm displayed and the orderliness of the proceedings have already put the stamp of success on this year's session.

The Presidential procession was led by a body of lady volunteers who were next followed by the regular Volunteer Corps. The Volunteers stationed themselves on both sides of the passage from the gateway to the dais and made an arch with their batons under which the leaders who formed the Presidential procession marched. The leaders marched up in pairs. Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar and Mrs. Sarojini, Mahatmaji and Maulana Mahomed Ali, Pandia Malaviya and Mrs. Besant, Maulana Shaukat Ali and Mr. Sen Gupta and the Chairman and the President-elect. A chorous, then sang national songs of Bharathi, the great poet of Tamil Nadu and Tanjore. As the ennobling strains of the music reached further limits of the pandal, the little noises and buzz that prevailed previously died down and silence reigned everywhere. The lady volunteers then sang songs of welcome.

DELEGATES WELCOMED.

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar next ascended the rostrum and welcomed the delegates. Loud Speakers enabled the vast audience to catch every word uttered on the rostrum.

ENTHUSIASTIC GREETINGS.

After Mr. Mudaliar had read his address he walked up to the dais and garlanded Dr. Ansari amidst thundering cheers. Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar invested him with the "insignia" of Presidentship. Dr. Ansari then mounted the rostrum. Another round of cheers greeted him and he acknowledged them with smiles and 'namaskarams'. He then read his Presidential address. His references to Mahatmaji and his repetition of Mahatmaji's words, "Swaraj within the Empire if possible, and without if necessary," evoked prolonged applause.

NON-CO-OPERATION DID NOT FAIL US.

Again when he declared that "Non-co-operation did not fail us, we failed Non-co-operation" there were shouts of Hear, Hear, and cheers. He read his address slowly and his distinct voice and the electric loud speaker that had been fixed helped to get the address heard by the whole of that vast gathering. Dr. Ansari took an hour and a half to finish his address and when he finished with the recapitulation of his views on the main problems, there was prolonged cheering.

Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyngar, General Secretary, then read messages wishing success to the Congress received from Pandit Motilal Nehru, Mr. Jinnah, Lala Laj Patrai, Mr. Subash Chandra Bose, Madame Sun Yet Sen, Dr. Kitchlew and some others.

Five resolutions were moved from the Chair and passed unanimously without debate.

CONGRESS JOINS LEAGUE AGAINST IMPERIALISM.

After the Presidential address was over Dr. Ansari put the resolution about associating with the 'League Against Imperialism' and the resolution about China from the Chair and they were passed with acclamation.

WAR DANGER.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru moved his resolution on war danger which was in the following terms:

This Congress has noted with grave concern the extraordinary and extensive war preparations which the British Government is carrying on in India and in the Eastern Seas, specially in the North-West Frontier of India. These preparations for war are not only calculated to strengthen the hold of British Imperialism in India in order to strangle all attempts at freedom, but must result in hastening a disastrous war in which an attempt will be made to make India again a tool in the hands of Foreign Imperialists. The Congress declares that the people of India have no quarrel with their neighbours and desire to live at peace with them and asserts their rights to determine whether or not they will take part in any war.

This Congress demands that these war preparations be put an end to and further declares that in the event of the British Government embarking on any warlike adventure and endeavouring to exploit India in it for the furtherance of their Imperialist aims it will be the duty of the people of India to refuse to take any part in such a war or to co-operate with them in any way whatsoever.

He said that of all the resolutions that would come up before the Congress there was none more important than this. Any war now-a-days would bring as its consequence international disaster. War preparations in and near India were particularly disastrous to the people of India. He referred to the development of the Singapore Base and also war preparations made in India itself, such as the formation of the Royal Indian Navy, improvement of transport facilities in the Punjab and North-West Frontier and concentration of the Air Fleet in that territory. Those preparations, he emphasised, were not made without a special purpose. On the contrary there were definite proposals in that connection and some of these had even been published by English newspapers. Indians, therefore, should make their position clear that they reserved the right to determine whether or not they would take part in any war, and if they did so, England's proposals might undergo a change.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Nimbkar.

The resolution was explained in Tamil and Telugu and declared amidst cheers.

The Congress adjourned to meet to-morrow afternoon.

The Subject Committee meets to-morrow morning.—Free Press.

MAHATMAJI ATTENDS OPEN SESSIONS

MADRAS, (Congress Camp) Dec. 26.

Mahatma Gandhi is attending the open session of the Congress to-day. But to-day is his "Silence Day". He will not take any part in the proceedings. He will attend to-morrow's sessions also and it is likely that he would leave for Sabarmati on Wednesday. At the Ashram he will take rest for a month.—Free Press.

"INDIA'S HONOUR AT STAKE"

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26.

Moulvi Muhammad Yaqub has sent the following telegram to Dr. Ansari.

"Regret unable to be present. Wishing success. India's honour at stake. Country anxiously awaiting your decision. Hindu-Muslim unity essential at any cost."—A.P.

BOYCOTT OF SIMON SHOW

LORD SINHA TERRIBLY AFRAID

INDIA "STANDS TO LOSE GRIEVOUSLY BY N. C. O."

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Lord Sinha, who is a passenger by the s. s. "Rawalpindi", interviewed said:—"I am home for a short time only for quiet and rest. If I address my countrymen on political questions it will only be because I am impelled to do so by my sense of duty. I am sorry that the policy of boycotting the Simon Commission should find such a measure of acceptance in India. I am grieved that my friends whose political opinions I hitherto largely shared should, on this occasion, throw their weight on the side of Non-Co-operation. I hope other counsels will prevail.

I am aware that an eminent authority, whose genuine sympathy and aspirations are beyond suspicion, has expressed the view that India will lose nothing by boycotting the Commission. With all respects I differ from him entirely. India will lose enormously, perhaps irreparably. I do not suggest that the Commission will be less generous to India in their report because of any feeling of irritation caused by the boycott. I have too high an opinion of Sir John Simon, and his colleagues to make any such suggestion. I do not think my friends in India either will be deterred by any such reason from taking such action as they considered to be in the best interests of India.

"STANDING TO LOSE GRIEVOUSLY."

I respectfully suggest that my friends in India stand to lose grievously by the atmosphere they are helping to create. No reforms, however generous, will have a reasonable chance of success if they are ushered in after a spirit of general ill-will and feeling of utter mistrust that is being created. The past experience bears out my apprehensions and to the past I appeal for warning against Non-Co-operation. It is impossible to set bounds to its underlying spirit. Already there are signs of a possible, though probably unintended, excess when a veteran Indian politician suggests non-payment of taxes as one method of expressing popular disapproval. I see from the papers received on board a dawning good sense in seeking to limit the field of resistance, but we must remember, what the past amply bears out, that cautious and placable methods of leaders will soon be thrown to the winds the moment they invoke the evil spirit of Non-Co-operation. Did we not find to our cost that it is easier to raise it than to exercise it? To my old associates I presume, on the strength of old comradeship, to say. "Remember Dadabhoy, Gokhale, and Surendranath. Adhere to their old and tried policy and keep the flag flying till you have safely seen the vessel in the harbour."—Reuter.

PT. MOTILAL'S MESSAGE

MADRAS (Congress Camp), Dec. 26.

Pandit Motilal Nehru has sent the following cable to the Congress "deeply regret unavoidable absence but fully trust that Congress under your guidance will achieve definite results. Hindu-Muslim question demands most earnest attention, but should not be allowed to cloud the issue of political freedom. The adoption of a final constitution for full self-government is essential. The Congress will not have done its duty, if it disperses without presenting the world with a sound practical scheme of India's Government by Indians and adopting measures to popularise and enforce it. Hearty good wishes for success.'—Free Press.

LALAJI'S MESSAGE

WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT TO BOYCOTT

MADRAS, (Congress Camp) Dec. 26.

Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar has received the following telegram from Lala Lajpat Rai, dated, Calcutta Dec. 25th.

"Thanks. Cannot reach in time to be useful. Wholeheartedly support boycott Commission. Constitution must settle all Parties Conference Delhi."—Free Press.

SENSATION IN SUBJECTS COMMITTEE

SOME MEMBERS RESENT CHAIRMAN'S RULING

MADRAS (Congress Camp) Dec. 25.

When the Committee reassembled after tea Dr. Ansari intimated that there were three more resolutions on the Bengal dotenus: The Swaraj constitution and the North-West Frontier Province. Mr. Sambamurthi wanted a resolution about Gene-

(Continued on next page.)

(Continued from Column 6.)

the boycott of the Commission is keenly discussed in various camps. The Bihar leaders feel that the resolution, as framed, gives rise to doubts and difficulties. It will require a good deal of elucidation. The Bengal delegates mostly approve of it. The Andhras share the doubts of the Biharis. "The Subjects Committee resolution is another form of the Gauhati resolution; only in different language and is thoroughly impracticable" said Messrs. K. V. R. Swami, M.L.C., and whip of the Council Congress Party and B. Venkataratnam, M.L.C., summing up their opinion. "There should be," they added, "a clear "in" or "out of" the Councils without giving any room for subtle quibbling and interpretation of the resolution". The Burmese delegates, will vote with Rev Ottama when he seconds Mr. Shyam Sundar Chakravarti's amendment, 'back to non-co-operation.'—Free Press.

ANSARI---MAHATMA POURPARLERS

FATE OF INDEPENDENCE RESOLUTION

GANDHIJI TO LAUNCH OPPOSITION?

(From Our Special Representative.)

MADRAS, (Congress Camp) Dec. 26.

To-morrow the Boycott and Independence resolutions will be taken up. As regards the Independence resolution, there is a strong opposition to it from staunch followers of Mahatma Gandhi and there is considerable feeling among the delegates that the resoution is ill-timed at a juncture when a united front is the supreme requisite. Dr. Ansari and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had discussions with Mahatma Gandhi who obviously does not favour the adoption of the resolution, and I heard reports that Mahatma Gandhi intends opposing it in the open Congress. If he does not do so, it would be more on account of his health than out of regard for the feeling of those Congress leaders who have allowed themselves to be stampeded into accepting it.

Mahatmaji remained in the meeting only for a few minutes.

MADRAS, (Congress Camp), Dec. 26.

With the passing of the Boycott resolution and the Independence resolution by the Subjects Committee, the shaping of the Congress policy for the coming year must be said to be over. All speculation as to what answer the Congress was to give to the Simon Commission is now at rest. It is to be boycotted at every stage and in every form. On Saturday the Subjects Committee debated the question for three hours and with a few amendments carried the Working Committee's carefully and elaborately worded resolution. Except for the opposition from the still politically active No-changers of the stamp of Mr. Shyam Sunder Chakravary and Mr. Sambamurti who raised the banner of "back to Non-Co-operation's and persistent Responsivists like Dr. Moonje and Mr. Aney, the resolution provoked little criticism. Pandit Malaviya and Dr. Besant were in entire sympathy with the resolution and the former had only certain verbal amendments to press. The younger school found an able exponent in Acharya Gidwani who has notified an amendment proposing a directorate to carry out the boycott. The resolution as finally amended and passed by the Subjects Committee runs:

TEXT OF AMENDED BOYCOTT RESOLUTION.

"Whereas the British Government have appointed the Statutory Commission in utter disregard of India's right of self-determination:

This Congress resolves that the only self-respecting course for India to adopt is to boycott the Commission at every stage and in every form.

In particular this Congress calls upon the people of India and all Congress organisations in the country (1) to organise mass demonstrations on the day of the arrival of the Commission in India and similar demonstrations in the various cities of India which the Commission may visit; (2) to organise public opinion by vigorous propaganda so as to persuade Indians of all shades of political opinion effectively to boycott the Commission.

This Congress calls upon the non official members of the Indian Legislatures and leaders of political parties and communities of India and all others not to give evidence before the Commission, nor co-operate with it in any manner, public or private, nor attend or participate in any social functions given to them.

This Congress calls upon the non-official members of the Indian Legislatures neither to vote for, nor serve on the Select Committees that may be set up in connection with this Commission, to throw out any other proposal or motion or demand for grants in connection with the work of the Commission.

This Congress also calls upon the non-official members of the legislatures not to attend the meetings of the Legislatures except for the purpose of preventing their seats being declared vacant, or for the purpose of making the boycott effective and successful, or for the purpose of throwing out a Ministry or for opposing any measure which, in the opinion of the Working Committee of the Congress is detrimental to the interests of India.

This Congress authorises the Working Committee to confer with and secure the co-operation wherever possible, of other organisations and parties with a view to make the boycott effective and complete.

The resolution will be moved to-morrow in the open session by Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar seconded by Mrs. Besant and supported by Pandit Malaviya.

Acharya Gidwani has given notice of an amendment in the following words:

ACHARYA GIDWANI'S AMENDMENT.

"This Congress appoints a directorate consisting of Dr. Ansari, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Mr. Subash Bose to organise and direct the national boycott in co-operation, wherever possible, with all political parties and associations in the country."

It is understood that Mr. Aney will move for the deletion of clause and he would be supported by Dr. Moonje and the Maharashtra delegates.

OPPORTUNITY FOR UNITY.

The support given by Mrs. Besant and Pandit Malaviya, it is pointed out, to the resolution assures to the Congress programme a large measure of extra Congress following which practically means the whole of vocal India, excepting rank reactionaries. The announcement of the Parliamentary Commission and the consequent indignation aroused by it, it is argued, have created a favourable opportunity for welding the national forces. To insist on the doctrine or to lower the tone of our resistance would, it is felt, be detrimental. The resolution, it is said, represents the maximum amount of accommodation which the Congress allows to other parties and the independence resolution only refers to the ultimate goal to which none could take exception and which did not mean dissolution of Indo-British tie.

Acharya Gidwani's amendment and Shyam Babu's amendment which he has promised to move, but of which he has not so far given notice, might not be carried though, they might command considerable support. Mr. Shyam Sundar's amendment, if it can suecure the support of No-Change leaders like Messrs. Rajagopalachar, Vallabhai Patel and Rajendra Babu, stands a great chance of being carried. But the support has not been so far vouchsafed.

Mr. Aney's proposed amendment to delete clause (d) laying down the conduct of work in Councils will secure very little support in the open session.—Free Press.

A DIGNIFIED STATEMENT

Mr. Fenner Brockway, in an interview to the Press, approves of the Independence Resolution as it finally emerged, as a dignified and clear statement of India's goal, and says that friendly alliance with Britain as an equal would be a safeguard against colour bar which is one of the main dangers of the future.—Free Press.

NEW YEAR GIFT TO HOSPITAL FUND

POONA, Dec. 26.

As a new year gift, H. H the Aga Khan has given a donation of three thousand pounds to the Sir Leslie Wilson Hospital Fund.—A.P.

FEELING IN DELEGATES' CAMPS

MADRAS, (Congress Camp) Dec. 26.

The Subject Committee resolution on

(Continued in Column 4.)

MAHAD SATYAGRAHA POSTPONED

DISTRICT COLLECTOR'S SUGGESTION ACCEPTED

SATYAGRAHA CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

MAHAD, Dec. 26.

Presiding over the Mahad Satyagraha Conference on Sunday, at which about ten thousand people were present, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, M.L.C., of Bombay said that the untouchables had met in that conference not solely for the purpose of drinking water from a particular tank but for the purpose of establishing human rights. Dr. Solunki, M.L.C., and Mr. S. B. Tilak, son of the late Lokamanya Tilak sent messages expressing sympathy with the objects of the Conference.

In the course of his presidential address, Dr. Ambedkar said that removal of untouchability would benefit not a particular community, but would benefit the whole Indian nation. The ideal of the movement was a noble one, namely the abolition of Varnashram system and the enunciation of the principle of equality. He also stated that human rights, services, and position were to be determined not by the accident of birth but by merits alone.

Mr. G. N. Sahasrabudhe, a Brahmin, read a few extracts from Manu Smirti to show what kind of treatment was to be meted out to others than Brahmins. Resolutions were then passed. The first resolution considered Manu Smriti and certain other books contained vulgar passages and went against human rights. It was resolved to burn such books. Another resolution declaring the rights of man was passed unanimously. This resolution declared that all the Hindus should be regarded as of one varna and should be recognised as such and that it should be laid down by law that to call oneself a Brahmin or a Kshatriya and so on should be prohibited. Another resolution laid down the necessity for the holding of competitive examinations for admission to priesthood. Towards the end of the day's session, the ceremony of the burning of Manu Smriti took place.—Free Press.

SATYAGRAHA POSTPONED

MAHAD, Dec. 26

At Monday's sitting of the Mahad Untouchable Satyagraha Conference, the Collector of the District spoke for about half an hour. He urged the Conference to postpone commencement of Satyagraha, until the decision of the Court. Mr. Javalkar expressed sympathy with the conference on behalf of the Satya Samaj and Mahrattas. About 3,000 names of volunteers for Satyagraha were enlisted.

The Conference turned itself into subjects committee and discussed the question in closed doors. The suggestion of the Collector to defer Satyagraha was seriously considered at the open Conference and eventually agreed to.—Free Press.

CALL FOR HINDU-MUSLIM RAPPROACHEMENT

(Continued from previous page.)

ral Avari who had been on hungerstrike for 74 days to be taken up for discussion. At the some time, members who had given notice of the Kakori resolution wanted it to be moved. Dr. Ansari said it would be taken up next day.

Dr. Ansari vacated the chair and entrusted the conduct of the business to Mr. Iyengar. The Chairman called upon Mr. Sen Gupta to move the detenue resolution.

SENSATION IN SUBJECTS COMMITTEE.

A sensation was created in the Subjects Committee when as a result of Dr. Ansari's ruling, some resent was caused among the U.P. delegates and some others. Swami Govindanand rose to move the adjournment of the House, but as Mr. Sen Gupta was in possession of the House, he was not allowed to do so but after the detenue resolution was passed Swami Govindanand moved his adjournment motion. In his speech he said there was considerable resentment at the way in which those in charge of the Congress machinery were showing partiality in allowing resolutions to be taken up for discussion.

Mr. Iyengar intervening said: "The Independence resolution was allowed."

Swami Govindanand retorted: "Yes; we pass the resolution for independence, but we would not sympathise with those who died for the independence of the country." (Hear, hear)

RESENTMENT OVER CHAIRMAN'S RULING.

Concluding he said as a protest against the action of the leaders he moved an adjournment.

Mr. Iyengar pointed out that the Subjects Committee had only to prepare the work for the Congress. It could only adjourn for the physical and other convenience of the members. He, therefore, ruled the resolution out of order. Immediately some of the delegates rose from their places and said as the Chairman had not allowed the resolution about the Kakori prisoners, they were walking out in protest. About a dozen members openly resented the ruling and were appealing to their brethren also to walk out. Mr. Iyengar then announced that he had only ruled the adjournment out of order and not the resolution which he said in deference to the feeling of the House he would take up immediately after the next resolution. The decision was accepted by the members and Mr. Sitaram Sukla was allowed to move his resolution a little later. The draft was not agreeable and Mr. Gidwani was asked to move his resolution which expressed sympathy with the relatives and prayed for the souls of the departed. A reference to the prayer and the souls was objected to and ultimately, the resolution expressing pain at Government's refusal to extend mercy to the prisoners and sympathising with the relatives was passed. The Subjects Committee debate then continued.

Mr. Sen Gupta moved his resolution regarding the detenus, without any speech. It was seconded by Maung Maungji and carried unanimously.

ATTEMPTS TO SEPARATE BURMA FROM INDIA.

The next resolution to be taken up was one disapproving of the attempts to separate Burma from India and also condemning the idea of creating a North-East Frontier Province, and appealing to the Indians and Burmans in their mutual interest to promote an Indo-Burmese union. This resolution was moved by Maungji. He said Government was trying to divide Indians and Burmans with a view eventually to isolate Burma and exploit her. Ten years ago, Burma was politically backward, and if to-day there was progress it was largely due to Indians who had been there. He concluded by saying that the people of Burma waited for sympathy from Indians. Mr. Sen Gupta seconded the resolution and it was carried without further discussion.

Mr. Sambamurti moved the resolution congratulating General Manekshaw Avari on his courageous fight against the Government and his hunger-strike. It was carried. After some more discussion, the House rose for the day.—Free Press.

THE PATH TO SWARAJ.

PT. MALAVIYA'S RESOLUTION

MADRAS (Congress Camp) Dec. 25.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviyaji has given notice of the following resolutions to be moved in the Subjects Committee:—

(1) That this Congress reiterates its repeated declaration that India is fully fit for the immediate establishment of responsible government, and that all assertions made to the contrary are based on ignorance, prejudice or self-interest.

(2) This Congress is convinced that the existing system of Government in India which is utterly irresponsible to the people is inimical to the best interests of the country, serves those of Britain at the expense of India, and should be replaced by Swaraj or full Responsible Government without any avoidable delay.

(3) This Congress calls upon the people of India to unite and bestir themselves as a nation to expedite the establishment of Swaraj.

Towards this end, the Congress charges its Working Committee:

(a) To strengthen the Congress organisations throughout the country;

(b) To establish an Indian Citizens' Association with branches in every town and village and consisting members of all castes and creeds who will pledge themselves (1) to think, speak and act as freemen and women, (2) to learn to bear and use arms in self-defence, and for the defence of the country, (3) to use and propagate the use of Khaddar and swadeshi cloth to the exclusion of all foreign cloth, (4) to be prepared to bear all and sacrifice all for the motherland as need may arise,

(c) To hold a special session of the Congress at Delhi in February next to which representatives of all other political organisations will be invited, (1) to review British administration in India in all its important aspects and to point out in how many respects and to what extent it has failed to promote the moral and material progress of the people of India, (2) to discuss and adopt a constitution for the establishment of Swaraj in India and (3) to take such steps as may be necessary to have the constitution accepted by the British Parliament and embodied in an Act of Parliament.

RE-DISTRIBUTION OF PROVINCES.

The "Hindu" understands that Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya will move on behalf of the Hindu Maha Sabha a resolution condemning the principle of creating provinces on communal considerations for the purpose of creating communal majorities as it was against all sound political principles and, opposed to the growth of genuine nationalism. Panditji is, however, not opposed to any practical scheme of re-distribution of the provinces on a linguistic basis to financial and economic conditions.—Free Press.

MESSAGES TO THE CONGRESS.

MADRAS (Congress Camp), Dec. 26.

At one in the afternoon to-day the open sessions of the 42nd Indian National Congress commenced amidst scenes of great enthusiasm. Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar, Chairman of the Reception Committee welcomed the delegates. Amidst thundering applause and deafening cheers Dr. M. A. Ansari mounted the rostrum and read out his Presidential Address which was punctuated with applause and cheers.

Following messages of sympathy were read at the open session of the Congress:

Lala Lajpat Rai has sent the following:—

"Extremely regret absence for reasons of health and urgent work. Wish you fullest success in guiding Congress to its wise discussion."

The Indian Association cordially invites the A. I. C. C. and the National Liberal Federation to meet each other at Calcutta to discuss and settle the future constitution and decide upon the most suitable line of action to get that constitution.

Haji Haroon has sent the suggestion of a Round Table Conference.

Mr. B. Das urges the amendment of the constitution.

The Council of the League against Imperialism hearing Pandit Motilal Nehru and Mr. S. Saklatvala, joins the Indian people in opposing the Reforms Commission and declares that only the elected constituent Assembly is entitled to determine the Indian Constitution. The League condemns the attitude of the Labour Party in strengthening British Imperialism. The League appeals to the organisation to fight for complete Indian Independence. The message is signed by Finnen Madam Sussat Sen and Barbusse, and Gibarti, Secretary.—Free Press.

CLOUD GATHERING IN FAR EAST

MR. MARDY JONES ON MILITARY PREPARATIONS

"Great Britain is even more concerned about keeping to grip upon India for strategic purposes of a possible war in the Far East than ever her interest in Indian markets for the British goods" said Mardy Jones, M. P. in an interview to the Free Press representative, when asked about inner meaning of the extensive military preparations which are now going on in the North-West Frontier Provinces and which formed the subject of a heated discussion in the Subjects Committee meeting of the Indian National Congress. "Home Rule for India, even if it involved the fiscal policy of protection against British and Foreign goods to build up infant industrialism in India itself, would not seriously injure the British trade, and that the danger is not a real objection which the British imperialists have to the granting of self-government to India. They look upon India as a great Back water in the troubled waters of Asiatic politics which enables them to anchor in safety in all trading parts of the Far East as a pivot for exploitation of the countless millions of the oppressed peoples in the interior of Asia.

I do not think for a moment that the seat of the next war will be in the North-West Frontier. In my opinion, I see no possible danger of war breaking out in the North-West Frontier Provinces either from Afghanistan or from Russia. I think that there is far more danger war breaking out in the near future in the Far East, as the result of the commercial rivalry, in the gamble for exploitation of the natural resources of India, China, and the Strait Settlements.

SINGAPORE BASE.

Regarding the Singapore base, Mr. Jones said it is a very shrewd preparation by the naval experts of the Imperialist forces of Great Britain. It is done in anticipation of the next world-war which will break out in the Far East. All modern wars have been waged for commercial purposes, and a mad gamble for the world markets is the chief source of danger. Great Britain as a naval power, and as a country which is mostly dependent upon foreign food supplies cotton and other raw materials has to maintain the protection of the trade routes of the world, in defence of food supplies and raw materials for her industries. Until there is an agreement among the chief nations of the world upon simultaneous disarmament, there is very little likelihood that Britain will give up naval supremacy. It is these Imperialist interest which dominate the tory Government and to some extent also influence the Labour Party and which stand in the way of granting India's demand for complete self-government. This will also be a stumbling block to the recognition of India's complete independence in the near future.—Free Press.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Among those present in President's dais were Mahatmaji, Ali Brothers, Pt. Jwaharlal Nehru, Abdul Kalam Azad, Pandit Malaviya, Dr. Besant, Sarojini Devi, Sen Gupta, Muhammad Shafi, Dawood, Yakub Hussain, Dr. Subbarayan, Ranganatha Mudaliar, Arogyaswami Mudaliar, (three Madras Ministers), Mr. Justice Venkatasubba Rao, Raghavendra Rao (C.P. Minister), the Rajah of Ramnad, Mr. Mardy Jones, the Raja of Kollengode, C. V. S. Narasimha Raju, Sir Ibrahim Rahimtullah, Swami Venkatachellum Chetti, Mrs. Muthulakshmi Reddi, Satyendra Chandra Mitra and others.

"AGGRAVATING THE OFFENCE"

MR. NARIMAN'S ALLEGATIONS

PROSECUTION COUNSEL'S CONTENTION

Mr. S. G. Velinkar, Counsel for the prosecution resumed his arguments when the Harvey-Nariman case was resumed before Mr. H. P. H. Dastur at the Esplanade Police Court.

Arguing whether Mr. Nariman was liable for defamation or not, Counsel said that in making a defamatory statement a person used language which was applicable to the complainant (in this case Mr. Harvey) he could not escape liability by saying that he intended the language to apply to some one else.

"OPPORTUNITIES."

Mr. Nariman was given not a few opportunities of stating to the Court openly and publicly that he did not charge Mr. Harvey as one of the higher class of staff having received secret commissions from manufacturers. Mr. Nariman from the very beginning had flouted the warning that Counsel gave him, that he was aggravating the offence by persisting in the allegations and imputations against Mr. Harvey. And now at the end, he was quibbling and stated that, he intended to hit the whole Department.

If the Court was prepared to hold that the imputation made by Mr. Nariman in the first charge was of and concerning the complainant, that was the way in which an unprejudiced reader would understand it, then the outstanding questions were whether Mr. Nariman had proved that the imputation was true or whether he had proved any good faith or had reasons to believe the truth of the imputations.

ALLEGED FALSE STATEMENT.

Then relating to the second charge counsel said that it contained 26 statements of facts. The statement that the M. S. bars were required for foundation piles for reclamation scheme was false. Mr. Nariman knew that these bars were required not for reclamation but for the housing scheme and was told so in October 1924 by the General Member in the Council. Counsel declared that Mr. Nariman deliberately and intentionally made this false statement in order to reopen the matter and get the Mears Committee go into it.

As the Magistrate intimated, at this stage, that he was feeling indisposed further hearing was adjourned.

CALCUTTA MUST DECIDE

SPLIT IN MUSLIM LEAGUE

"HOLE-AND-CORNER TACTICS"

MADRAS, (Congress Camp), Dec. 25.

Muslim leaders in the Congress Nagar are of opinion that the Muslim League Session at Lahore will only be voicing the feelings of the handful of reactionaries who were pledged to co-operate with the Statutory Commission. Dr. Ansari, President of the Indian National Congress, in an interview to the press says: The Muslim League split was inevitable and that it was brought about by hole and corner tactics of Sir Mohammad Shafi and his supporters. "There is not the slightest doubt", he says, "that the Calcutta Muslim League will really represent the views of the Muslims of India. That is why I am very anxious to finish the sessions of the Congress by the 28th instant to proceed to Calcutta to strengthen the hands of the nationalist Muslims.

Moulana Mahommad Ali says. "The split such as this was bound to come we are told of the parting of the ways. One way is called the path of God and the other the path of 'satan'. The hand of God is on the Muslim majority and community as a whole will never follow th path of 'satan.'"

"GRIEVED BUT NOT SURPRISED."

"I am grieved with the split but I am not surprised," says Mrs. Sarojini Naidu. She also proposes attending the Calcutta meeting of the Muslim League.

Maulana Shaukat Ali says the Mussalmans will now be able to decide between the flatterers of the Punjab and U. P. and those who had always stood for Islam and for the country on every critical occasion. Shafi Daudi, M.L.A., President of the All-India Khilafat Conference says that Calcutta's will be the real voice of the Muslim community, and that representative Muslims should muster strong there. Abul Kalam Azad assured the press representative that Sir Shafi and other Punjab Muslims will not have any effect on the majority of Muslims in the country, while Yakub Hassan is of opinion that Sir Mohamad Shafi should have remained aloof from this controversy and that the split is painful but not surprising.—Free Press.

LEAVE SIMON COMMISSION ALONE

ADVICE TO SIR M. SHAFI

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26.

Moulvi Muhammad Yakub, Deputy President of the Legislative Assembly, has issued the following statement to the Associated Press: "The decision of Sir Mahomed Shafi and his party to hold a rival session of the Muslim League at Lahore is most unfortunate. Their action not only indicates they have no confidence in the community, but also proves their lack of confidence in themselves. Mussalmans did not divide the League even in the dark days of the Khilafat trouble. Does it behove them to create two rival camps now? I have no doubt Sir Muhammad Shafi and his party have taken up a very wrong attitude. In my judgement, it would be suicidal for the Mussalmans to divide themselves into two rival camps. A minority divided against itself must go to the wall. May I suggest to both the sections not to commit themselves to a definite course with regard to the Statutory Commission. Certain prominent men have taken up the question of drawing up a constitution which will be acceptable to both the Hindus and the Mussalmans. It would be obviously wrong for a divided Muslim League to advocate definitely whether the Simon Commission should or should not be boycotted without giving a chance to those who have set to themselves the task of composing the communal differences. In my view, the best course is to leave the Simon Commission issue alone and to take it up in an extraordinary session of the League at Delhi in February to which Mussalmans of all shades of opinion should be invited. I hope it will be possible for His Highness the Aga Khan to preside over it.—A.P.

ALL-INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE

SUGGESTION TO POSTPONE BOYCOTT QUESTION

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26.

The following telegram has been sent to Sir Muhammad Shafi and Mr. Jinnah by Mr. Hasrat Mohani, Maulvi Muhammad Yaqub, Deputy President of the Assembly, Sir Rahim Bux, Nawab Jamshed Ali Khan, Nawab Muhammad Ismail, Hafiz Hidayat Hussain and Mir Naraig:

"While protesting against holding two sessions of the Muslim League, in order to minimise the painful situation we earnestly pray to avoid discussion on boycott question both at Calcutta and Lahore. We suggest holding extraordinary session in February for this purpose."—A.P.

ALL-INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE

LAHORE SESSION BEGINS.

LAHORE, Dec. 26.

The Reception Committee of the rival All-India Muslim League which will hold its session at Lahore met to-day at the residence of the Chairman Sir Zulfiqarali Khan. Eleven members were present and it was decided that the Council of the All-India Muslim League should meet in the afternoon of 29th December to elect new members for the thirtieth anniversary of the League which would be held in the Habiba Hall, Islamia College. The morning sitting will be occupied with addresses by the Chairman and the President and in the afternoon the Subjects Committee will meet to draft resolutions to be placed before the open session. The Subjects Committee will meet again on the night of 31st December and should it become necessary the session will be continued on 1st January.—A.P.

SIMON TAMASHA.

LAHORE MUSLIMS FAVOUR BOYCOTT

LAHORE, Dec. 25.

At a public meeting of Mussalmans of Lahore held to-night outside the Delhi Gate Maulana Qadir Kasuri presiding, a resolution was passed unanimously amidst shouts of Alla-u-Akbar favouring boycott of the Simon Commission. The resolution which was moved by Moulana Zafaralikhan, characterised the personnel of the Commission as a negatiin of India's right of self-determination. Such a Commission was a blow to the dignity of the Indian national and Islamic self-respect. The meeting had only one answer for such an indignity and that was the unqualified disavowal of the right of the Commission to meddle with the liberty of Indian people and its complete boycott.

BOYCOTT SIMON COMMISSION

KHILAFAT CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

MADRAS, Dec. 26.

The Khilafat Conference which resumed its sitting last night, passed a resolution boycotting the Simon Commission and urging the re-organisation of the Khilafat Committees. Two other resolutions expressed grief at the death of Zaglul Pasha and thanked Amanullah Khan for having received addresses of the Muslim community.—Free Press.

STUDENTS' ENTERPRISE

FROM HYDERABAD (DN.) TO BOMBAY IN 8 DAYS

Five Hyderabadees who are all students started on bicycle from Hyderabad (Deccan) on the 16th instant and they covered 50 miles on the first day and on the second day they did 65 miles and on the third day 90 miles and on the fourth day they travelled only 28 miles because almost the whole day was at Sholapur in having the sights of the city.

For the next three days, (that is the fifth, sixth and seventh days of their journey) they did 65 miles per day, and eventually arrived in Bombay on the 23rd instant.

PT. RAMCHANDRAJI'S LECTURE

A public lecture wil be delivered tomorrow (Wednesday) at 6-30 p.m. (S.T.) at Aryasamaj Hall, Girgaon Back Road, by Pandit Ramchandraji Delhiwala on "Islam as not a Missionary Religion."

LATEST NEWS

MADRAS, Dec. 26.

The Working Committee's resolution regarding Hindu-Muslim settlement, which had been on the Subjects Committees agenda on both days was not taken up for discussion. It is reported that the Hindu Maha Sabha seriously takes exception to some of the clauses. It is understood, attempts are being made to modify the draft as to make it acceptable to both parties. An informal conference has been conveyed by Dr. Ansari to-night. Prominent leaders of the Working Committee and Pandit Malaviya and a few Sikhs have been invited. It is reported that resolution about independence does not command the approval of Mahatmaji. It is also reported, Dr. Ansari and Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru had long discussions with him last night, presumably about this resolution.—Free Press.

PROGRESS OF SOCIAL REFORM

SUGGESTION OF A NEW MARRIAGE ACT.

"INDIA WILL BE CRADLE OF UNIVERSAL RELIGION."

MR. NATARAJAN'S MASTERLY ADDRESS.

The Indian National Social Conference commenced its three days' sittings at Madras on Tuesday under the presidency of Mr. K. Natarajan when he spoke on the pressing needs of social reform, touching on the problem of Devadasis, caste reform, etc.

MADRAS Dec. 27.

The Indian National Social Conference came off to-day at Madras.

After thanking the Conference organisers and recalling some sweet memories of his young days in Madras, Mr. K. Natarajan proceeded to observe that if the lines of work followed by him and his colleagues were followed Madras politics would have had a different and more harmonious history. He then took a brief review of the position of social reform in those days and as it was now. What was understood by social reform then, was illustrated by Mr. Natarajan by relating an incident connected with the late Mr. Justice Ranade. He said:—

"In my early days in Bombay, I happened to call on the late Mr. Ranade when there was a well-known Parsi gentleman in his company. As we were discussing social reform the Parsi friend interrupted with the question, "Well, Mr. Ranade, what is this social reform of yours except eating meat and gallivanting with women?" The latest biographer of Mr. Ranade, Mr. Kellog, in his admirable book, remarks that Ranade had no sense of humour. But Ranade's reply to the Parsi gentleman showed that he had a very shrewd wit. He told the Parsi gentleman with a twinkle in his round eye that the items he mentioned were not on the programme of social reform! I mention this incident to show that even to years after purity propaganda was started social reform among outsiders was regarded as a sort of chartered libertinism. Our movement has now outlived this reputation. We are neither libertines, nor puritans in the narrow sense of being against everything that meets the aesthetic needs of our nature. But we do hold that no one has a right to any enjoyment at the expense of another human being."

METHODS OF SOCIAL REFORM

"In our attempts to give practical effect to social reform the method we have followed has been one not of rebellion but of peaceful and friendly persuasion. When it was a question of suffering we have preferred to suffer ourselves rather than inflict suffering on others. When we have been obliged to differ from our orthodox kith and kin we have done so with regret and with the greatest consideration for their feelings. And I venture to think that our orthodox people recognise now that in pleading for the introduction of social reforms we have not been actuated by a love of mere innovation much less by a desire for self-indulgence but with the object of conserving all that is good—and there is much that is good—in our ancient system. A state which is without the means of change, said Edmund Burke, is without the means of preserving itself. This is as true of society as of the state which in fact is but society in its political aspect. Has this method, it may be asked, and it has been asked, met with any measure of success? My emphatic answer is that it not only has met with a fair of success but that no other method that has been tried has met with an equal amount of success.

Mr Natarajan then took a cursery review of the progress of women's education all over India, referred to prominent workers in this field in all provinces, observed that one obvious sign of this progress was the demand for raising the marriageable age of girls and entered a powerful plea for an All-India Marriage Act, in support of which he said:

ESSENTIALS OF A MARRIAGE ACT

I do not wish to go here into details, but I may express my personal feeling that it is the duty of Government in view of the remarkable concensus of opinion to bring in an All-India bill fixing a marriage limit which should apply to all communities. Child-marriages are not confined to Hindus. They are common among Indian Musalmans and Christians though to a less extent than among Hindus. The evils of child-marriage are the same among all castes and communities. I am also of opinion that there should be a provision in the bill for associating monogamy as an integral part of the Indian marriage system. I may point out that every marriage law passed by the Indian legislature has, with a single exception, included monogamy as an essential incident of every statutory marriage. An exception was made in the case of the Anand Marriage Act on the plea that it simply removed doubts regarding the validity of marriages in the Punjab under the old Sikh custom. I do not think this is a valid reason for departing from what has been the normal rule of Indian legislation. A custom is a fluid thing whereas the special merit of a law is its uniformity which admits of no exceptions. I think, therefore, that we must revert to the practice of introducing or at least facilitating the introduction of the monogamous principle in every marriage law that receives the sanction of the legislature.

The evils and hardships of polygamy are moral, while those of child-marriage are physical, and, therefore, more obvious to superficial observation. But let us not forget that moral suffering is far more excruciating than physical pain, and that the young wife who finds herself supplemented or supplanted by a junior partner for no fault of hers often feels life more unendurable than if she had been a victim of the custom of enforced widowhood. If you educate your girls and postpone their marriage till they come to years of discretion, it is impossible to expect them to feel happy under the conditions which were tolerable to their mothers and grand mothers. This is a fact which many of us do not seem adequately to realise. There are too many cases of unhappiness due to the failure to realise the mental and moral revolution created in a girl's mind by education.

We must realise that educated girls cannot be happy in a marriage which is largely based on the assumption that the wife is an illiterate and ignorant person whose only business is to bear children and look to the comfort of her household.

Mr. K. Natarajan, President of the Indian National Social Conference.

As we are all agreed on the importance of women's education, we must see to it that our marriage system is made suitable and safe for educated women. If there is one incident of marriage which is intolerable to an educated wife it is the association of another woman in the conjugal bond and, therefore, I strongly maintain that at the present time it is not less urgent to introduce the monogamous principle in our marriage system than to raise the age of marriage.

THE PROBLEM OF DEVADASIS.

From the question of marriage to the question of devadasis may seem, to many, a violent transition. But to me who was one of those who more than thirty years ago started the anti-nautch movement in this City, it is a natural one. For the great objection raised to our movement to do away with the practice of inviting nautch-girls to our social, religious and even official functions, was that the carrying out of the reform would, by curtailing the profits, inevitably lead to the extinction of the nautch-girl as a social institution, and that the result would be the general demoralisation of family women. The argument was that the institution was a sort of safety-valve invented by the wisdom of our ancestors for the letting off

(Continued on page 3)

CONTEX

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ANAND JIWAN PHARMACY, AGRA

FOREIGN CAPITULATIONS IN PERSIA

HAS FRANCE RENOUNCED THEM?

A SEMI-OFFICIAL DENIAL

LONDON, Dec. 25.

The report that France has renounced her privileges under foreign capitulations in Persia is semi-officially denied. The French Government has agreed on the principle with the Persian Government to modify and even to suppress capitulations, but cannot allow French nationals to be put in a position inferior to that of other nationals. The French Government hopes that a conciliatory attitude on this matter will result in France's being granted the most favoured nation treatment.—Reuter.

SEARCH EXPEDITION SENT.

LONDON, Dec. 25.

New York.—The aeroplane "Dawn" mentioned in the message of 24th December, has not yet been located. It is now 48 hours since it left Roosevelt Field.

Search expedition left Curtiss Field this afternoon.—Reuter.

MR. FENNER BROCKWAY'S HEALTH

RECOVERY, A SLOW PROCESS

MADRAS, Dec. 25.

Mr. Fenner Brockway, who sustained bone fracture due to motor accident a few days back at Vellore, is undergoing treatment at Madras General Hospital.

A Free Press of India representative who saw him at the Hospital, found him cheerful. Mr. Brockway is experiencing some pain in the leg and also having some temperature.

The representative was informed that his recovery would be a slow process, though there is no cause for anxiety.—Free Press.

HEROIC FIGHT WITH FLAMES

UNSUCCESSFUL SEARCH FOR BODIES

LONDON, Dec. 25.

"The cry of Santa Claus is scratching matches," uttered by a five-year old boy climbing the staircase of a tenement building which commands the view of the distlict was the first warning of the fire. Policemen immediately summoned the fire brigade who were holding a Christmas party. The building attacked by fire had its frontage of 150 gutted by the fire which attracted throngs from the City who were doing their Christmas shopping.

The blaze was so menacing that the fire-master ordered fifty families to vacate their homes. There was no time to remove furniture. Tons of valuable machinery fell through upper floors of the destroyed building. The fire-master temporarily called off the men when he realised the dangerous situation. It was only when the roll call was taken some time after, and there were no replies from four men, that it was discovered that they must have been trapped in the building and beneath the ruins. A search for the bodies was unsuccessfully carried out amid dangerous conditions of to-day.—Reuter's Special

DISASTROUS FIRE AT GLASGOW

FOUR FIREMEN KILLED

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Four fire-men have been killed at Glasgow during a fire which destroyed a five-storey warehouse in Graham Square in Gallowgate District on Christmas Eve.—Reuter.

THE FRENCH BUDGET

DEFINITELY ADOPTED

LONDON, Dec. 25.

Paris.—The budget, after going backwards and forwards between the Chamber and the Senate, has been definitely adopted in both Houses by substantial majorities. Receipts amount to 42,496 million francs, and expenditure to 42,441 million francs.—Reuter.

PROGRAMME OF ROYAL COMMISSION

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26.

The following communique has been issued by Mr. Bbore, Secretary, on behalf of the Chairman, of the Indian Statutory Commission. "The members of the Indian Statutory Commission propose to sail from Marseilles on January 20 and expect to reach India for the purpose of a preliminary visit of about two months duration on February 3. They will visit New Delhi, where the Parliamentary session will have just begun and hope also to go, on this first occasion, to one or two of the Provinces. The object of these journeys is to see on the spot the working of the Legislative and Administrative machines of India and to consult informally with the Indian legislators and Ministers and with other persons on the subjects with which the Com-

A PRINCE'S VIEWS ON PRINCES RIGHTS

WHO IS THE PRINCE?

BRITISH PRESS CURIOSITY

(Free Press Beam Service).

LONDON, Dec. 26.

The London Correspondent of Free Press of India wires: The Free Press interview with a Prince in regard to the Bharatpur attention is exciting considerable interest in the identity of the Prince. The Press demand the disclosure of the identity of the Prince as a condition of publication. Inquiries made by me in responsible circles show that the British press are evidently better posted in regard to developments over the Bharatpur question than even the Indian press. The British press have confirmation of the reports current in India that the Maharaja of Bharatpur has received peremptory orders to comply with the demand to leave the State as a preliminary to the setting up of the inquiry which the Maharaja has accepted.

Note by Managing Editor Free Press of India:—It is natural that curiosity should exist as to the identity of the Prince whose views have been briefly sketched by a representative of Free Press of India. Ordinarily, Free Press of India does not encourage the publication of expressions of opinion, the authors of which are not prepared to support them openly with their names. But, in this case, there are sufficient grounds which justify the observance of secrecy in regard to the Prince in question. While, under no circumstances, Free Press of India can disclose the name of the Prince to whom the views are attributed, in accordance with journalistic traditions, it has satisfied itself that apart from the comments to which it has given publicity the facts referred to therein and on which the message is based, are substantiated by documentary evidence, which can be made available in the event of necessity. The reference in the London messages to the confirmation that is available in regard to reports current in India needs explanation. Free Press of India had received information that very recently His Highness the Maharaja of Bharatpur had received an official intimation that the Government of India except His Highness to comply without loss of delay the demands made to His Highness (1) to leave the State during the period of inquiry, (2) to abstain from any act of administration during the period of inquiry and (3) to hand over the charge of administration to an officer selected by the Government of India. It was also stated that His Highness had intimated to the Government of India His Highness' intention to avail himself of the privilege of appealing to the Secretary of State, in case of any preliminary difference between the Government of India and the Ruler which His Highness was of opinion was vouchsafed to the Princes under the resolution of the Government of India of 29th October 1920.

But, with the last peremptory communication which His Highness is believed to have received, it is stated, strong indication was given to His Highness that there can be no question of appealing to the Secretary of State as the Secretary of State had not only sanctioned the general procedure but also concurred in the details of the proposals made to His Highness. It is a brief summary of these facts that were wired to the London correspondent of Free Press of India for information and inquiry and with instructions not to publish them as authentication had not been received by Free Press of India. But the reply shows that while the Government of India are keeping the Indian press ignorant and permit inspired statements to be made contradicting even the mere statement that the Maharaja of Bharatpur has accepted an inquiry, the British press, is far better posted with the latest developments. The Bharatpur question is said to be pregnant with possibilities as it is stated that His Highness the Maharaja of Bharatpur has been advised by some eminent members of His Highness' order to refuse to comply with the demand in regard to leaving the territory etc. and the advice is supported by Indian and British legal opinion that the demand of the Government of India is contrary to the treaties.

treaties between the Suzerain Power and the Princes. Legal adviser in England has been and is Sir Leslie Scott who advised the Princes delegation when Sir John Simon declined to take the responsibility, while in India, at the preliminary stages, Sir Tej Bahadur advised His Highness as also Mr. Jayakar.

The situation is crucial, as such a delicate situation has not arisen before and there is no regular and well established procedure for an amicable settlement of the differences over the interpretation of the rights of Princes as have now arisen. The question is: What would the Government of India do if His Highness persists in refusing to comply with the demands that have been made in the belief that they are unwarranted and [illegible] channel of appeal to the Secretary of State has been practically [illegible] closed even before an appeal actually made. The Government [illegible] remove the Maharaja of Bharatpur from His Highness' territory. His Highness, it is stated, would offer no resistence to any legal order of deportation or removal from the State provided it emanates as such. Two, the Commission may be ordered to sit outside the limits of the State so that the inquiry may be unprejudiced by any undue influence of His Highness or His Highness' partisans. Third course is to impose British troops on Bharatpur, while the inquiry is in progress to protect the subjects and others against any attempt at molestation. Whichever course is taken, serious issues would be raised that would demand both of the Government of India and the Princes' Chamber their best efforts to avoid unseemly developments. In this connection, Free Press of India is informed that His Highness has extended to the Government of India solemn assurances that His Highness will not do any act calculated to prejudice the impartial conduct of the inquiry but the Government of India's insistence on leaving the territory is in spite of such assurance.

UNDER THE CONGRESS FLAG.

REMOVE KHADDAR FRANCHISE,

There is a universal desire in the country that all political parties should present united front to the Government who have affronted the country by the appointment of the Simon Commission. With a view to focuss public opinion on this all-important question of the mobilisation of all parties under the Congress Flag, a questionnaire has been addressed by the "Bombay Chronicle" to prominent persons of all political parties. We publish below the replies of Mr. S. C. Mitra, M.L.A., Vice-President Bengal Provincial Congress Committee:—

Questions.	Replies.
1. What, if any, are the minimum changes in the Constitution and the present Council policy of the Congress which you think necessary to enable you or those who are not now members of the Congress to join the Congress?	In Article VII of the Constitution of the Indian National Congress, clause (iv) should be altogether omitted.
2. In view of the fact that the Congress is or should be thoroughly National, i.e., inclusive of all parties in the country and that its general policy must necessarily vary with time and circumstances, are you agreeable to the suggestion that minority parties should always remain in the Congress, striving to convert it and the public to their views, but be at the same time free on grounds of conscientious objections, to propagate their views and act up to them when they think essential to do so?	Minority parties should always remain in the Congress with full liberty to propagate their views to convert the Congress to their views. But so long the resolutions remain unaltered every member of the Congress should honestly try to give effect to them. Congress resolutions are only recommendatory and not mandatory, but yet it is morally binding to endeavour to comply with them so long they are not opposed to anybody's conscience.
3. What other constructive suggestions would you offer further to improve the representative character of the Congress?	Efforts should be made to convince the general public that Congress belongs to no particular party or group and all facilities should be provided in the constitution that whatever opinion predominates in the country may be properly voiced in the Congress. The rules should be so framed that no caucus and group may control the Congress against the general public opinion.
4. What action in addition to vigorous vocal protests and the formation of the national demand, do you suggest for making the boycott of the Simon Commission effective?	A general Hartal should be observed the day the Commission lands in this country protesting against the insult and as a definite step for this insult British piece-goods should be totally boycotted.

NATIONAL FLAG HOISTED AT MADRAS

MR. J. M. SEN GUPTA ON ITS SIGNIFICANCE

MADRAS (Congress Camp), Dec. 26.

The first formal ceremony in connection with the 42nd Indian National Congress was performed at seven-thirty this morning when Mr. J. M. Sen Gupta, Swarajist leader of Bengal, hoisted the national flag amidst thundering cheers of the vast multitude who had gathered around.

In a short speech Mr. Sen Gupta explained the significance of the national flag. Every nation had its own flag, its own colour and its own inscriptions. America had its stripes and stars, Germany its eagle and India must have her own flag. For the last 150 years, Indians had no national flag, and it was only during the Non-co-operation our leaders thought that there should be a flag for Indian people. Every flag bore inscriptions which had a particular bearing on the history of the people and the inscription on our flag is the inscription to Indian people.—Free Press.

THREE ARTS' CIRCLE

SEASON'S CORDIAL GREETINGS

A grand 3 Arts' So[illegible] will be held on the New Year's Da[illegible] (Sunday) when tea will be served at [illegible] p.m. Indian nautch will be performe[illegible] by A.moin (first appearance [illegible] dances in Bombay). [illegible] display will be given [illegible] European music will be [illegible] local talent [illegible] assisted. Mr[illegible] will [illegible] it is hoped [illegible]

INDIAN STATES' SUBJECTS CONFERENCE

IN SEPARABLE RELATION WITH PEOPLE OF BR. INDIA

MADRAS (CONGRESS CAMP), Dec. 26.

The first All-India States Subjects' Conference began this morning at nine with Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar, ex-President of the Congress, in the chair. Many from the States of Pudukottah, Indore, Cochin, and Hyderabad attended the Conference.

Mr. S. Satyamurthi, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcoming the delegates, said that there might be fear on the part of some Indian Princes that such inclusion of affairs of Indian States in its scope by the Congress may adversely affect their position. But "I venture emphatically to state that the Indian States have nothing to fear from the Indian National Congress and that the Indian Princes will find leaders of India at least as friendly to them as the Government of India."

Proceeding, he pointed out, "it is clear that these Indian States have no real sovereignty and that, therefore, all ideas of their being deprived of their sovereignty consequent on Swaraj for India are thoroughly unsound. The most immediate need," he concluded, "is to substitute the rule of law for personal rule in the Indian States."

Mr. Srinivasa Ivengar, in his extempore Presidential address, said that no geographical or political boundaries can separate the subjects of British India from that of Indian States. He deplored lack of agitation on the part of the Indian States.—Free Press.

WANTED INFORMATIO[illegible]

MISSING MADRASI BRAHMIN B[illegible]

K. A. Venkatram, [illegible]pliss Chama, a Madrasi Brahmin boy of ten years of age is reported to be missing since 11 a.m. on Monday. The boy has his hair closely cropped and shaved in the front. He wore at the time of missing khaki nickers, a shirt and a towel. He is of black complexion and has no deformities. Mr. K. R. P. Iyer, 11, Visrani Bhavan, Matunga (G.I.P.), writes to us to say that he would be very much obliged to any one who might give him any information of the whereabouts of this boy.

The Hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer opened the Musical Instruments Exhibition at Madras to-day (Saturday).

The Hon. Mr. S. R. Das arrived at Calcutta from Madras to-day (Saturday) [illegible]utta from Madras to-day (Saturday).—

His Excellency Sir Charles Innes attended the races at Rangoon on Saturday and presented the [illegible]ous plate to the winning owner.

TRIED AND FOUND WANTING

OLD "MAC'S" EGREGIOUS BLUNDER

D. CHAMANLAL'S SMART RETORT

LABOUR PARTY'S BETROYAL OF PRINCIPLES

LAHORE, Dec. 23. (By Mail.)

The following reply has been issued by Diwan Chaman Lall to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's statement:—

Mr. MacDonald's reply to my joable has not surprised me, for what could he say in reply to the double charge, firstly that all classes in India are against the Labour Party's betrayal of its principles; and secondly that the Labour Party has thereby written a shameful chapter in the history of both the nations? Mr. MacDonald says that this is sheer rubbish. Where does the rubbish come in? Is it not true that all classes in India voicing the people's demand, Liberals like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and Mr. Chintamani, Muslims like Sir Ali Imam and Mr. Hassam Imam, Independents like Mr. M. A. Jinnah, Responsivists like Lala Lajpatrai, Congressmen like Pandit Motilal Nehru, Moderate politicians like Sir Dinshaw Petit, Hindus like Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Labourites like Mr. N. M. Joshi, the Trade Union Congress, the Indian National Congress, the Khilafat Committee have with one voice condemned the appointment of the Commission. Is it not true that even the handful of dissentients like Sir Mahomed Shafi have equally condemned the composition of the Committee? After this, does it lie in Mr. Mac-Donald's mouth to characterise the remark that all classes in India are aghast at Mr. MacDonald's folly as rubbish? Mr. Lansbury makes the following statement:—

MR. LANSBURY'S STATEMENT.

"The decision to allow two members of the Labour Party to join the Commission is in some quarters severely criticised and appeals from all parties in India have come to hand urging the Party to withdraw its representatives." Mr. MacDonald was aware of this when he characterised my correct estimate of the situation as sheer rubbish. But what obviously Mr. MacDonald is most chagrined at is the charge levelled by India that the Labour Party has betrayed its principles. Let me remind Mr. MacDonald of what his new-found supporter Mr. Lansbury thought of Mr. Baldwin's statement:—

PREMIER'S STATEMENT.

"Nobody who read the statement made by Mr. Baldwin could do other than realise that the Government's attitude of mind was one of condescension and patronage without the slightest recognition of India's right to have a predominant voice in determining her own status and future." In spite of this, in spite of the Indian protests, in spite of the declared policy of the Labour Party favouring self-determination for India, Mr. MacDonald agrees to appoint two Labour representatives on the Commission thus acquiescing not in the policy of self-determination, but in a policy of condescension and patronage. I repeat Mr. MacDonald and his Party have shamefully betrayed their own principles and the trust India reposed in them, and it is nonsense for Mr. MacDonald to pretend that it is otherwise. He may say, as he does now, that the Labour Party continue to hold their position in favour of Indian self-government. I admire such optimism.

INDIA'S CONFIDEDNCE FORFEITED.

After the Bengal Ordinance and after this last betrayal if they still believe that they continue to hold their position, they may at least rest assured that nobody in India believes them. Mr. MacDonald's phrase is reminiscent of wartime communiques from the front when Commanders announced their retreats in the significant phrase: "Our forces maintained their positions." And what could be now more absurd than Mr. MacDonald's indictment of the whole Indian nation in his remark that nobody was standing more in the way of the realisation of Indian self-government than those advocating boycott of this Commission."

TRIED AND FOUND WANTING.

Practically the whole of India is unanimous in regard to the boycott. Is the world to understand that it is India that stands in the way of her own self-government or is the world to understand that Mr. MacDonald has made an egregious blunder, has become in his own words an Imperial statesman, has sold his Party in order that at the next elections cry shoud not be raised that he is out to wreck the Empire by agreeing to give India her freedom? India is not likely to trust such opportunist statesman again. Representative Indians agree with me in the final verdict that Mr. MacDonald and his company have been tried and found wanting. This verdict for Mr. MacDonald is probably nothing more than sheer rubbish, but for India it is the parting of the ways.—A. P.

PROGRESS OF SOCIAL REFORM

(Continued from previous page.)

of the superfluous animal passions which, they asserted, was bound to exist in every society and if this safety-valve was closed down, there must be an explosion leading to the destruction of family life. In other words, it was necessary to dedicate a class of women to a life of promiscuity in order to maintain the purity of our mothers, sisters, wives and daughters. I am, therefore, justified in treating the nautch-system as a corollary of our marriage system to which I have referred in my previous observations. The answer to the safety-valve argument is obvious and it was promptly forthcoming. The man who is accustomed to look upon one class of women with a lustful eye is prone to turn the same eye towards others also.

CASTE REFORM.

I next come to the question of caste. Social reformers whether of the shastraic or of the rational school, had no thought in the past of dealing directly with the problem of hereditary castes in the Hindu community. Hindu reformers, from the time of Buddha, have avoided making a frontal attack on caste and preferred to give effect to their ideas by creating parallel organisations which ignored caste distinctions. Even Islam and Christianity have had to, a certain extent to compromise with caste in the same way. The reason is, as pointed out by the eminent sociologist, Patrick Geddes, that the four original castes represent a natural division in all civilised societies. "Poor and rich, labour and capital," he writes, "these two first castes are the ones mainly developed in western lands by our industrial age; yet we also have been increasingly developing the culture caste of the university; while our public schools have especially endeavoured to provide a courage-caste, with its ambitions turned from gain or learning towards an ideal of rule." (p. 25, 'Dramatisation of History'). This system of Western castes is being powerfully assailed by the Soviet system in Russia, so powerfully indeed that the nations of Europe have found it necessary to take extraordinary precautions against Bolshevik propaganda in their own countries. It is obvious, therefore, that our hereditary cast-iron caste-system is wholly out of tune with the spirit of the times, and it is no wonder, therefore, that it is rapidly disintegrating. Such a doughty reformer as the late Sir Ramkrishna Bhandarkar thought that only the development among the people of a strong national consciousness could break down the caste system. This phenomenon is going on before our very eyes and we can hear almost every day some part of this medieval system crashing to the ground as if struck down by unseen hands. The non-Brahmin movement in Southern India and Maharashtra is a sign of the times. It was inevitable that it should seek the line of least resistance, just as the Indian National Congress did by turning its guns first against administrative monopoly and privilege. Like the national movement too, it will soon discover, if it has not already done so, that no caste or community or nation rose to greatness by filling subordinate offices in government service and that it is only by liberating the mind and soul of the people from the cramping effects of custom and superstition that a nation or a community can make its gratest contribution to the cause of progress.

A CAMPAIGN OF CALUMNY.

Twenty-eight years ago, the National Social Conference met in Madras and had the privilege of being addressed by Mahadeo Govind Ranade according to his annual custom. On that occasion he devoted his observations to combat the thesis of Abbe Dubois' book on Hindu Manners and Customs, an English translation of which had been published by the late Mr. H. K. Beauchamp in the previous year. The Abbe came to India as a fugitive from the French Revolution. He came with great expectation of being able to convert India to Christianity by his presence and preaching. With that object he adopted the ways and manners of the Hindus and was received by them according to the long-established custom of the country, with all the respect due to a great religious teacher, although of a religion different from theirs. His attempts to convert the people of India, however, miserably failed according to his own confession, and the Abbe's book is an attempt to show that his failure was due to the inherent incapacity of the Hindus, owing to the mental and moral corruption induced in them by the Hindu religion, and he concluded that there was no hope of salvation for the Hindus. Ranade, though he could not but see that the Abbe's narrative was deeply prejudiced, exaggerated and ill-informed, assumed for the purpose of argument that it was a substantially accurate description of Hindu manners in the days when the Abbe lived in India, and he pointed out that the Abbe's conclusion was entirely wrong as Mr. Beauchamp's footnotes showed that several of the customs described by the Abbe Dubois had already ceased to exist in India. Mr. Ranade showed that "the British connection and its just humane administration have brought about a change in our religion, law and polity, of such a character as not to make it necessary that we should be all turned into atheists and barbarians, to be white-washed again into civilization and manners, and that, if we have not acquired a new nature, we have at least acquired inclinations and aspirations which will prevent our lapse into our former condition." This spirit of the Abbe Dubois, after a hundred years, has incarnated in the person of an American woman, Miss Katherine Mayo, who recently published a book which she insultingly named "Mother India" of which the thesis is almost the same as that of her French prototype. But while the Abbe's object was to prove the superiority of Christianity, Miss Mayo's purpose is to prove the superiorty of the White, especially of the Anglo-Saxon race. The mental unsteadiness of this writer is shown by the fact that, though she begins by solemnly professing that her concern was only with the hygienic aspect of things and that she had no concern, whatever with religion or politics, she is not able for two pages consecutively to stick to her undertaking and that the whole book is really and truly an attack on the Hindu people and religion with the object of proving that they are incapable of self-government, and that they will become a menace to the health of the whole world and to her America in particular, if their country did not continue to be ruled by her fellow Anglo-Saxons of the British Isles. Miss Mayo has attacked not only the men of India, but she has vilified in the most shameful fashion the mothers of India whom she has charged with debauching their children from their very infancy. It is not that we deny that there are abuses and grave social abuses in India as in other countries. Child-marriage we do not defend and for the last fifty years the social reformers of India have been exerting themselves to reform our marriage system in this as in other respects. Their efforts, as I have shown above, have not been without results. The Baroda Marriage Reform Committee in their report stated that child-marriage, properly so-called, has ceased to exist among the educated classes, and that it prevails at present mostly among the lower castes whose illiteracy and ignorance are a barrier in the way of the propaganda of social reform reaching them. The last Indian Census report bears testimony to the correctness of this view as applied to the whole of India. Mass-education is therefore the key to the solution of this and other social problems. Miss Mayo pretends that the illiteracy of the people is due not to the failure of the administration to discharge one of its fundamental duties but to the low public morality which makes it unsafe for women to adopt the teaching profession. A more ridiculously perverse bit of special pleading it is impossible to imagine! Any National Government in India, however incompetent in other respects, would have long ago seen the need of elementary education among the masses as a more means of its own self-preservation. That in pre-British India there was some sort of national education is attested by no less an authority than Sir Thomas Munro who in his evidence before a Select Committee of the Commons specifically referred to that fact as a proof of the high civilization of India. His testimony of the state of things one hundred years ago is the most weighty answer to the sweeping generalisations of the Abbe Dubois and his modern avatar, Miss Katherine Mayo. I have quoted the passage in my book, but it will bear repetition here. Sir Thomas Munro said in reply to a question put to him: "I do not exactly understand what is meant by the civilization of the Hindus. In the higher branches of science, in the knowledge of the theory and practice of good government, and in an education which, by banning prejudice and superstition, opens the mind to receive instruction of every kind from every quarter, they are much inferior to Europeans. But if a good system of agriculture, unrivalled manufacturing skill, capacity to produce whatever can contribute to either convenience or luxury, schools established in every village for teaching reading, writing and arithmetic, the general practice of hospitality and charity amongst each other, and above all, a nice sentiment of the female [illegible] indence, respect and [illegible] signs which denote a civilised people—then the Hindus are not inferior to the nations of Europe and if civilization is to become an article of trade between the two countries, I am convinced that this country (England) will gain by the import cargo."

Concluding Mr. Natarajan said:—"I am old-fashioned enough to believe in the theory of history as the unfolding of a great divine purpose, and it is my firm belief that if ever a universal religion and civilization are to embrace all mankind, that religion and that civilization will have their origin in this ancient and holy land of India. May every one of us, each in our humble sphere, carry that thought deep in our hearts and shape our lives in a way worthy of that high destiny!"

THE SIMON COMMISSION.

(Continued from Page 6.)

manner of doubt in the Indian mind that there is not even a semblance of genuineness to accelerate the pace of India's progress towards the goal of responsible government. In the circumstances, the only proper and dignified course open before a self-respecting people can be to have nothing to do (at any stage or in any form) with the Commission precisely in the same way as the British Government has chosen to treat us by our complete exclusion from a body appointed to determine the future political destiny of our country.

APPEAL FOR UNITY.

Last but not least, I venture to hope that this crowning piece of deliberate wrong to the self-respect of our country, may drive home to the Indian people the conviction that the foisting of an all British Commission of this character is but the inevitable result of our internecine feuds and factions, and that a people so much divided amongst themselves as the Indians are at present, must necessarily fall victims to the machinations of those who are vitally interested in perpetuating their hold on this country and who are, therefore, only too ready to take advantage of any opening in our ranks. If the appointment of the Commission will even now open the eyes of my countrymen to the irretrievable loss the country has already sustained by reason of the working of the disruptive forces that are in the ascendant amongst us, and make them realize the essential identity of their political interests, it would be a blessing in disguise. It is time, therefore, that our communal strife were at an end, that healthier influences gained ground in our public activities, and that political cohesion again asserted itself in the ranks of all public workers, as also amongst the masses, in the country. I hope that the appointment of a purely parliamentary Commission with its deliberate boycott of Indians may prove the "soul of goodness in things evil," and restore to us our lost political unity, by the coalescence into one compact body, one solid phalanx, of the various political parties and communal factions which the Indian body polity has disintegrated at present. This is the one great lesson that we have to, and should, learn from the action of the British Government in appointing the Commission. But there is another and an ever more useful lesson that we can and should learn from this incident. It is that embodied in the soul-stirring lines of Wordsworth, which all of us would do well ever to keep in mind remember:

'Tis well! from this day forward we shall know
That in ourselves our safety must be sought;
That by our own right hands it must be wrought,
That we must stand unpropped or be laid low.
O, dastard! whom such foretaste doth not cheer!

WELFARE-CENTRE AT NAGPUR

INDUSTRIAL HOME FOR WOMEN

The society of St. Vincent de Paul has been doing some excellent social welfare work at Nagpur for the last few years. Amongst other things, it has been running an efficient Needle-work Room for turning out gent's and ladies' clothes. This enables the society to provide work for indigent girls, and women, instead of doling out relief to them. The society run on non-sectarian lines and managed by lay-men, and expects help from public to enble it to build an Industrial Home on its own ground.

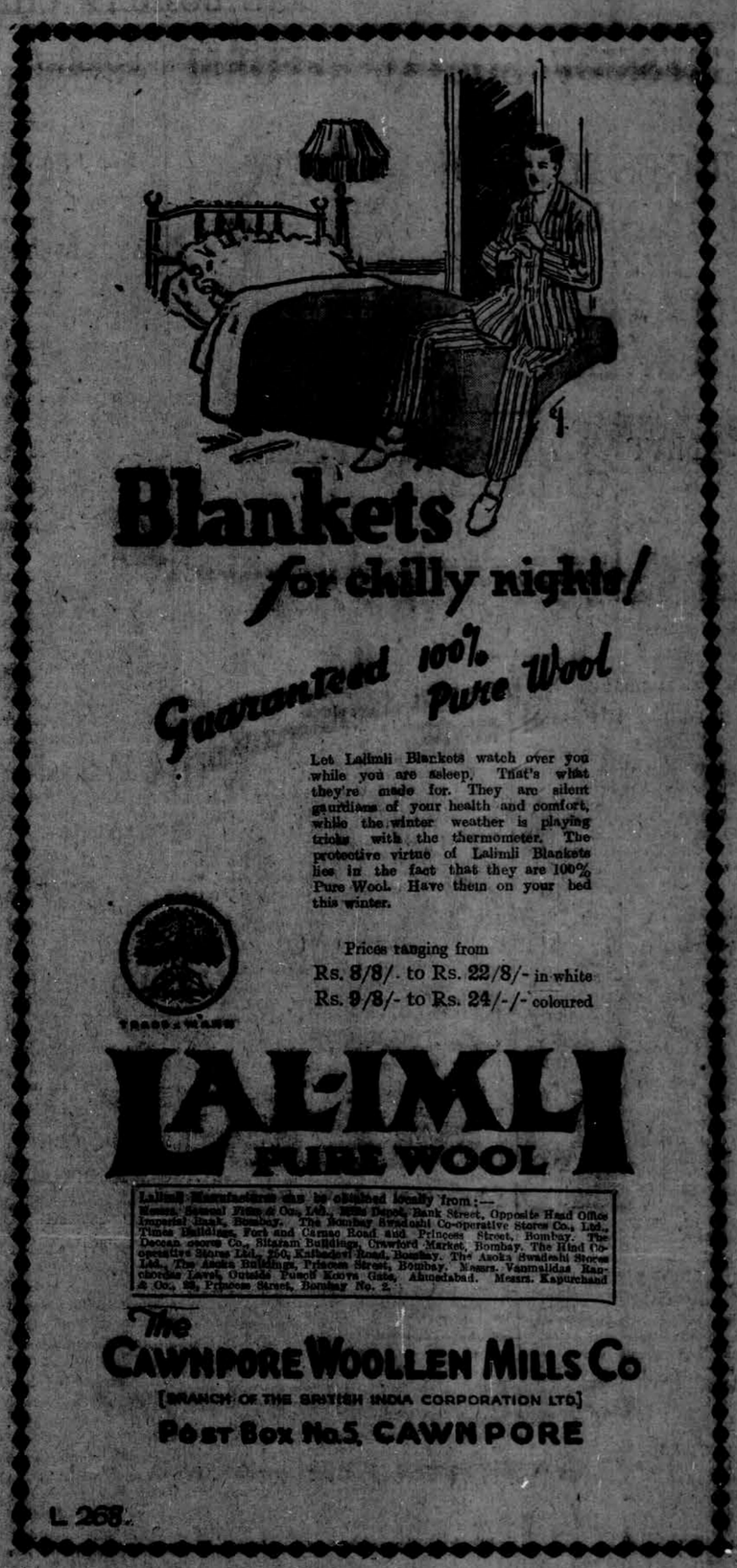
DOHAD SLAUGHTER HOUSE

CHANGE OF LOCATION EQUESTED

(From Our Correspondent).

DOHAD, Dec. 24.

A deputation of the Hindus of Dohad consisting of a pleader, and the Vice-President and Chairman of Dohad Municipality, Chairman of the School Board, a Member of the District Local Board, a Member from the depressed class and several others waited upon the Hon'ble Sir Gulam Hussain Hydayatulla, Minister of Local Self-Government, Bombay at Godhra for the removal of the Slaughter House in Dohad town from its present site on the Dadhimati River. All the communities of Hindus as well as the Moslems are dissatisfied with its present location as it is an unbearable nuisance to the depressed classes, in the proximity of whose houses and temple, the slaughter house is [illegible]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SOVIET PROPOSALS

ENTIRE REPUDIATION OF WAR

MR. PONSONBY ON "PERPECTLY GENUINE OFFER'

"I believe that the Soviet proposals are a perfectly genuine offer", said Mr. Arthur Ponsby, M.P., the ex-Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who negotiated the unratified Anglo-Russian Treaty of 1924, to our representative this morning.

"Mr. Rakovsky frequently emphasised to me that complete disarmament was the ideal they wanted to work for, as no country had suffered more from the War than Russia, and they were anxious to use all their resources for the purposes of reconstruction. Those who pretend that the adoption of such a proposal would leave the civilised nation at the mercy of the backward, savage and uncivilised races, forget that at present these races are furnished with their armaments by the Christian Western nations.

NOT MERE LIMITATION.

"The Soviet proposals are likely to have a very striking effect and to fire the public imagination because they are easily understood by the common people all the world over, who are unable to follow the intricacies of disarmament discussions. Nevertheless, I have always feared that a bold gesture of this kind would be condemned as insincere, if it depended upon universal acceptance and I therefore still stand for disarmament by example, that is to say, the abandonment of the war weapons irrespective of the immediate general concurrence of other nations is the proper line of advance. The Russian policy expresses a growing feeling among all people that the issue at stake is not limitation of armaments but the repudiation of war. This is exemplified in this country by over 128,000 people signing the Peace Letter as uncompromising war registers.—Orient Press Service.

LORD BIRKENHEAD AND LIES

TALE OF COIN-TOSS

Lord Birkenhead made a dramatic interruption at the debate of the Oxford Union Society, some days ago, says the "West Minster Gazette."

The motion was put: "That this House has no confidence in his Majesty's Government," and Mr. D. M. Foot, of Balliol, supporting the motion said that, according to a story he had heard, Sir John Simon and Lord Birkenhead had once tossed a coin to decide which party they should join.

At this Lord Birkenhead jumped from his seat and almost ran to the table.

"I must deny that," he said in the hush that followed. "That story, which has been repeated often is a stupid and foolish invention."

He then turned about slowly and went back to his chair.

Mr. Foot stood still for a few seconds, and then bowed to Lord Birkenhead annd said, amid laughter: "I am sorry. I have thought better of the noble Lord."

"I CARE NOTHING."

Speaking later, Lord Birkenhead, referred to the story again, saying:

"It has every quality of the Liberal joke. In the first place, it is a lie, in the second it is not funny, and in the third, it is calculated to give offence.

"And when it is pointed out to the honourable gentleman in a very polite manner that it possesses all these defects he says that he is very sorry, but he thought better of me. What does he mean?

"I suppose he is an ethiegl controversialist. Does he mean that he would have thought better of me if I had changed my political convictions on a spin of a coin! I care nothing about what he thinks of me, but I think of the wound the criticism must be to Sir John Simon. (Loud laughter).

"I understand Sir John Simon is coming here in about three weeks. What will he say when he is told that a Liberal here, an honest man, has actually accused him of having tossed up to determine to what party he belongs?

"Oh, Mr. President, it is not by these lies that shattered parties can be recreated. They must aim at nobler ideals."

The motion was last by 361 to 313.

BOMBAY PORT TRUST

At the Meeting of the Trustees of the Port of Bombay held on 20th inst. 1927, the following main items of business were disposed of:—

A Government Notification appointing Major General G. A. Weir, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., to be a Member of the Board vice Col. J. R. M. Minshull-Ford, D.S.O., M.C., resigned, was recorded.

With a view to minimise interruptions and delay to the work of deepening the Mail Berth at Ballard Pier by tenders coming alongside the berth at night to land passengers from vessels moored in the stream, which necessitates suspension of dredging and the holding up of expensive plant, the Board on the recommendation of the Marine Committee sanctioned an expenditure of Rs 4,000 for improving the lighting in and around no. 18 berth, Alexandra Dock, and for providing additional safeguards along the approach roads.

Certain amendments of the Bombay Port Trust Railway Goods Tariff were sanctioned (1) to allow of consignments of "small" being loaded at private sidings and (2) to bring the minimum size of consignments on the Bombay Port Trust Railway more into line with the minimum weight for wagons loaded [illegible] Railways.

SOPARA-ANCIENT PORT OF THE KONKAN.

LECTURE AT THE HI SOCIETY.

Mr. Braz A. Fernandes read a suggestive paper on "Sopara—The Ancient Port of the Konkan" before a meeting, in the Board Room of the Prince of Wales Museum, of the Bombay Historical Society on Tuesday. Mr. S. M. Bharucha, Collector of the Bombay Suburban District, presided. Those present included Rao Bahadur Joshi, Mr. V. P. Vaidya, Father Heras, Mr. G. V. Acharya, Mr. K. H. Vakil, Prof. Hodiwalla, Mr. Behramgor Anklesaria, Mr. Kotwal and other students of history. Mr. Fernandes said that under the name of "Surparaka" Sopara appeared in the Mahabharata 1400 years before Christ as a very holy place. Sopara was frequently mentioned as a great port in the ancient literary records, in the Ramayan and the Buddhist legends. The name "Surparaka" was said to have been derived from the Sanskrit word "Surpa" meaning a winnowing basket. It was connected with the famous legend of the creation of the Konkan by Parsurama. The "Skanda Purana" has also a version of the rise of Sopara. The "Rama's Pool" in Sopara indicated, among other things, the fact that it was, before the advent of Buddhism, a centre of Brahminic influence.

OLDEST RIVER.

The Vaitarana river was Potelmy's Gaoris, the oldest Indian river known to the Greeks. In the Purna legends Sopara was described as a city with several hundred thousand inhabitants with eighteen gates and a temple of Buddha adorned with friezes of sandalwood. Its building and towers rose to a height of 500 feet. The coin was gold. There were monasteries for rishis and nuns. The earliest known fact in the history of the Thanna coast belonged to the third century, before Christ (225 B.C.). It was found in the engraving on the pillar at Sopara with the Asoka edict. It was the principal port, perhaps, of Western India of the times. The epigraphic records contained numerous references to Sopara. The inscription in Kanheri, two inscriptions at Karli caves, an inscription at the Nasik Caves, inscription in the reservoir at the Nana Pass all indicated the fact that Sopara was an ancient town of great importance.

PRE-HISTORIC TRADE.

The pre-historic trade of India with the countries of the West was largely carried by Sopara. From 2500 B.C. to 500 B.C. there were signs of the trade with Egypt, Phenecia and Babylon, from B.C. 250 to A.D. 250 there were dealings with the Greeks and the Parthians from thence-forward the Persian contact was established. The voyages of the navies of Solomon and Hiram, kirg of Tyre indicated the trade intercourse between the East and the West. They read in the Bible: "And they came to Ophir, and they brought from thence to king Solomon four hundred and twenty talon of Gold." (3. Kings, ix. 28). this reference to Ophir was really, Mr. Fernandes maintained, reference to the town known, at present, as Sopara. Mr. Fernandes referred also to the articles of merchandise then exchanged by the navigators. He mentioned the Hebrew words with kinship to Sanskrit words. The first dynasty known to have ruled the region of Sopara was the Shatkarnis or the Andhras.

TRADE ROUTE DIVERTED.

The capture of Constantinople by the Turks diverted the trade route towards the Malabar ports. Sopara began to be dested by foreign ships and on the occasion of the cession of Salsette and Bassein to the Portuguese in 1534, forts were built at Bassein, Asheri, Tarapur but Sopara, said Mr. Fernandes, "dwindled never to rise again." Rao Bahadur Joshi, proposing a vote of thanks said it gave him great pleasure to hear the remarks from the learned speaker. He had over forty-five years ago, accompanied Bhagvanlal Inderji, Dr. Bhandarkar and several prominent students of ancient culture in their excursions to the place and he knew therefore the importance of the subject touched by Mr. Fernandes that evening. He disagreed with Mr. Fernandes about the Satkarnis but agreed that the Biblican reference to Ophis was reference to Sopara.

ANCIENT CULTURE.

Mr. Bharucha expressed his appreciation of the paper and observed that there might come a day when students of history thousands of years hence, would probably make a reference, a better reference, he hoped, to Bombay. Father Heras thanked the President and hoped that the students of ancient culture would manifest a keener interest in the activities of the Bombay Historical Society. They were, he said, shortly publishing the first bulletin of the Society.

OUR BERAR LETTER.

THE LAND REVENUE BILL.

YEOTMAL, Dec. 21

The Berar Legislative Committee has valiantly championed the cause of the agriculturists by rejecting all the reactionary proposals of the Government of India in the draft Berar Land Revenue Bill, and re-affirmed the draft prepared by their predecessors in 1925. All the popular amendments in the code gravitate towards the principle of ownership of the soil, which the Legislative Committee has once and twice claimed for the agriculturist. It is to be seen whether the Government of India sets its seals of sanction to this draft. One noticeable fact of this Committee is the absence, hitherto un-accounted for, of the two members, one of whom is a Swarajist and the other is a semi-Swarajist. The Yeotmal District Association has by virtue of a resolution called for an explanation from the two absentees on the Committee.

THE MINISTER ON A. I. C. C.

The Berar Provincial Congress Committee has elected Hon. Mr. R. M. Deshmukh as their representative on the All-India Congress Committee. The other Minister of this province, namely, Hon. Mr. Raghavendra Rao has also been elected by the C. P. Congress Committee on the A. I. C. C. Thus both the Ministers will be seen taking part in the deliberations of a Committee which is not for co-operation with the Government, but for driving the bureaucracy out of existence! The phenomenon is rare indeed in the history of the fight with the Government.

THE DIST. COUNCIL AND LOCAL BOARDS

[illegible] District Councils towards the Local Boards has generated a wide discontent among all the Board members, and the Yeotmal Taluka Board has done a great service by holding a Conference last week, where a resolution has been unanimously passed claiming for the Local Boards a position of absolute equality with the District Council and repudiating the authority of the latter as the "paramount" power. Mr. Charde, M.L.C. who presided over the Conference laid stress on the fact, often ignored that even the present law does not contemplate that the Local Boards are in any manner "subordinate" to the District Council and that they are only to carry out the mandates of the District Council Chairman.

CRICKET AT THANA.

(From Our Correspondent.)

THANA, Dec. 19.

Fortune seems to smile on the B. J. High School boys who, yesterday, won a brilliant victory over their opponents, the New Hindu Cricket Club. Thus the boys have qualified themselves for playing in the final of the above tournament. In their first innings the B. J. High School scored 75 runs and the New Hindoos were all out for 41 runs, Shaligram being the bowler responsible for the cheap dismissal of the formidable team. In the second innings, the boys put up a big total of 101 runs and the batsmen of the New Hindoos having recovered their form, collected 99 runs for 5 wickets down, when the game had to be stopped because of the time-limit.

In the other match, the Anand Bharati [illegible] a severe defeat at the hands of the Cosmopolitan C. C.

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FROM FOLLY TO FOLLY.

GOVERNMENT'S HANDLING OF INDIAN SITUATION.

PROTEST AGAINST SIMON COMMISSION IN COMMONS.

Following is the continuation of the Reforms Commissions debate report in the House of Commons

Mr Maxton: I do not want to delay the progress of the Bill for any length of time, but, listening to the Noble Lord to-day and the subsequent discussion gives the impression that the Government seem absolutely determined in the handling of this question to proceed from folly to folly, and as one who is genuinely anxious that the great Indian people shall be established in a position of liberty and dignity to develop their nation according to their own genius, I regret very much that first the Noble Lord the Secretary of State, in the other place, and then the Noble Lord the Under-Secretary of State in this House, should indicate to the Indian people that they had nothing but contempt for them. What possible measure of confidence can we have that the Government will deal with the Indian people in a decent gentlemanly, man-to-man fashion when they cannot treat with ordinary common courtesy the one representative of the Indian people who sits in this House? It seems to me to indicate quite clearly, what has been shown by their recent activities on the Indian question, that there is not the proper frame of mind on the part of the Conservative Government for the approach to a problem which is fraught with the very deepest possibilities, but also with the greatest danger for the future, not merely of the Indian people but for the whole of the East, and therefore for the whole of the human race. I think it should have been possible for a responsible Minister of the Crown to have put through this Bill, to have listened to any criticism to it with restraint and dignity, having regard to the fact that there were bigger issues at stake than his 'amour propre.' I hope that both the Noble Lord in the other place and the Noble Lord who is piloting this Bill through the House will take serious thought to themselves and try to change their attitude towards the Indian people.

Mr. Beckett: I am rather surprised that the Under-Secretary of State resented this Amendment quite so strongly. I only felt, when reading it, amazement that the Hon. Member for North Battersea (Mr. Saklatvala) should have come forward with such an extremely mild Amendment. It seem to me such a very reasonable request to make that I cannot understand why any hon. Member on the other side of the House should hesitate for a moment to support it. It certainly does not justify the very un-English practice of standing up supported by big battalions and taunting a man in the way that has been done just because he happens to be in a minority of one. I do not suppose any Member will find more points of disagreement with the Hon. Member from North Battersea than myself, but he is certainly entitled to express his opinions without being treated insolently, and in this particular case I think he has moved an Amendment which has nothing to do with any particular party prejudice, but it is an extremely moderate and very helpful Amendment. The party opposite are always telling us how India is the jewel of the Empire and have used all kinds of extravagant metaphors to show their affection for everything Indian, but, when we are discussing a Bill which is extremely important to the Indian people, except for the speech, which perhaps it is kinder not to deal with, from the Front Bench, we do not get a single word of any kind from the Members opposite, who are the self-appointed custodians and guardians of the Empire.

I happened to have spent some little time in India and Burma myself, and my views on this subject do not always run on parallel lines with those of my Friends on this side of the House; and I want to say, quite definitely, that if British interests in India—and I think some of the interests are helpful to the Indian people—are to be maintained, if we are not going to develop an extraordinarily bitter and unpleasant hostility between the awakening man of the East and our own race, we have got to approach these problems with the most extraordinary tact and discretion and delicacy. We have always to bear in mind when we are dealing with Indian problems that India is in the strict sense of the word not a white man's country. Englishmen cannot go there and settle with their families and found ancestral homes in the way that they can in Africa and other parts of the Commonwealth; and, because that is so, and because the English population in India must always be of a temporary, floating character, because it must be always greatly outnumbered, and because we cannot hold it by developing racial interests and family interests, we can only hold the Indian nation by two methods—one, the unrestricted and most brutal use of force; the other, a determined effort to understand, sympathise with and assist the Indian people in their struggle.

The Chairman:—The hon. Member is going rather far from the purpose of the Amendment.

Mr. Beckett. I will try and relate my argument to the Amendment, and I think it will be quite clear in a moment or two longer. I use that argument because I do want to impress upon the Committee the importance of not taking any step in relations to our present governance of India without having very carefully considered beforehand the effect that it will have upon the Indian people. I do not think hon. Members opposite will accuse me of party prejudice in saying that their party is more suspected by the Indian people than any other political party in this country. Rightly or wrongly it does not matter, but it is a fact, and when a Government such as this, which is strongly under suspicion, if only from the nature of the occupants of the India Office, suddenly develops a desire, as they say, to do something for India 12 months before they need to do it, the Indians remember the old saying—"Beware of the Greeks when they come with gifts in their hands." They are extremely suspicious of it. The argument, as I understand from speeches made on the Government side yesterday, and in another place is, that the Government is genuinely anxious to get this Commission appointed to find out what is best for India, and to do it. If that be the case, if this Commission is going to do the best thing both for India and for the permanent relationships between the two people, it is absolutely necessary that the Commission should start its work clear of suspicion and of prejudice and be able to get the best and most expert witnesses and advice from all sections of the Indian people.

If you adopt this Amendment, if you go to the Indian people and say, "We think this is the best, but we do admit that you have a little idea of what is best as well as us, but we suggest to you it is best, and we put it in the hands of the only kind of vocal assembly you have which can be recognised at all as representative and ask their opinion of it." If you accept this amendment, and follow that procedure, you are letting your Commission start on an absolutely clear and straight basis. It is true the Assembly is not as representative as it ought to be, for it represents vested interests too much and personal interests too little, but, at the same time, we have brought this Assembly into being, and we have made a pretence of gradually approaching to the grant of Home Rule to India; and if we are going to make this more than a pretext, we are not justified in taking such an important step without the slightest consultation with the body which we ourselves have set up for the purpose of causing Indian feeling to be represented. Therefore, I do suggest that we should not allow any prejudice against Communists, or against Indians, or against anybody who does not happen to be pure white and belong to the Primrose League, to prevent us from considering this amendment on its merits. There is no party in this House which has any direct and interest-bearing majority-holding on the Union Jack or the future of the British Commonwealth. It is a matter that concerns all parties, but how can you expect a party which holds least in England to support without protest a Bill which is giving to India even worse treatment than is given to our constituents? This amendment need not cause great delay if there be goodwill, suitability of handling and tact, and the recognition that the Indian peasant is often a better man than an English lord, and I am certain it would greatly expedite and improve the work of the Commission.

Mr. Pilcher: On a point of order. May I draw your attention to the first of these amendments—in page 1, line 6, after the word "Act" to insert "1919"?

The Chairman: We are not on any amendment on the paper.

Mr. Montague: I hope this amendment will not be pressed to a Division. As I see it, but for the objection that some members of the House have and that I have myself to the proposed composition of this Committee, nothing would have been heard at all of any objection to the acceleration of the action as proposed in this Bill. I hope it will not be pressed, because I feel that the passing of an amendment of this character, or even the support of such an amendment by any considerable section of the House, would have an undesirable effect in India and in this country with reference to Indian affairs. I do appeal to the hon. member for North Battersea (Mr. Saklatvala) to withdraw for that reason. I think we ought to keep the two things distinct and reserve for Friday our real criticism and our objections.

Colonel Wedgwood: It would be as well if we reserved our real objections to this measure, but I think this amendment is certainly justified and ought to have been met in a different spirit by the Noble Lord opposite. All sides of the House wants precisely the same thing so far as India is concerned. The main thing is that the Indians should not be on their knees begging for favours, but that they should be consulting with us as to what is in the interests not only of India but of the two races. Indian psychology at the present moment shows intense resentment against begging for small doses of freedom. They hold the view that in all matters they ought to be treated as equal partners; that the time for petitioning is coming to an end and that the time for consultation should dawn. If it were possible for the Government to await confirmation by the Legislative Assembly in India of the determination to set up this Statutory Commission before its time, we should begin on an entirely different plane from the rather unfortunate standard we have at the present time.

I am sorry to go back to the question of finance. The other day the Noble Lord declined to say whether India or England is to pay for this Commission. If India is to pay, surely a resolution by them in favour of setting up this Commission would be only the natural and right thing to ask. If they have to pay they ought to have some rights in calling the tune. I would urge that from the financial point of view, and, above all, from the psychological point of view, it would be infinitely more desirable if this effort for peace were initiated by both sides, instead of being left to the sole initiative of the British Parliament.

SOVIETISE BRITISH EMPIRE.

COMRADE "SAK'S" MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

BOYCOTT BRITISH CONTACT.

EFFECTIVE REPLY TO SIMON SHOW

Mr. Shapurji Saklatvala, M. P., has sent the following message to the delegates assembled at the Indian National Congress at Madras:—

Dear Comrades,—

The might of tyrants holds me away from my countrymen. Many have tried this trick before, to save their ill-gotten empires, but no one yet has really succeeded.

Yes, I can be shunned and held in exile only if you, my countrymen and countrywomen, shut your hearts against me and turn a deaf ear to my pleadings. If you receive me in your hearts, if you incorporate my suggestions in your deliberations at this critical juncture of our struggle for our freedom and in the cause of world peace, I am as much in your midst as any other delegate.

I honestly hold the view that the human being who stands reconciled to an imperialist bondage, who basks in the sunshine of foreign rule, is responsible for many more evils in the world at large, than merely for the degradation of his own country and his own people.

OVERPOWERING MILITARISM

British rule in India means an overpowering militarism by Britain that compelles the rest of the world to weigh itself down under the cursed burden of armaments.

British rule in India means our people's perpetual starvation, ignorance, physical deterioration and social backwardness. British rule in India means a standing curb on Egypt, Iraq, Persia and Afghanistan.

British rule in India means a continual menace to the wages, the work, and the life-standards of the British masses, and an actual frustration of their trade union rights and Socialist aims.

British rule in India means a constant unseen war upon the rapid development of the masses in all the nations of Europe and America.

IF EMPIRE WERE SOVIETISED

If by a magic touch the British Empire were to be Sovietised, and the conquered races under her control set free, there would be not only real peace and prosperity for the liberated races, but there would be a sudden jump in the economic, social, political and cultural development of the human race.

As a friend of Great Britain, as an equal brother of the British, as of the Indian worker and peasant, I devote myself and appeal to all of you to devote yourselves, to the great task of getting Britain to abandon Imperialism once and for ever.

IMPERIALISM KNOWS NO DISTINCTION

Pray, do not get led into merely raising protests against this act, and that act, and a hundred and one of the day to day grievances of a sorely tried people. What else is Imperialism but a crushing mill? The prince and the peasant must fall victims by turns, as you see a Nabha or a Nizam can be sacrificed to it, as easily as the poorest of Akalis and Moplahs. Imperial prisons exempt no castes or religions, when a spirited person makes a stand: a Subhas Bose, a Moulana Muhammad Ali, a Sardar Kharak Sing, a Munchersha Avari are all hateful to imperialist arrogance, and latterly you must have seen that when at last—thanks to the teachings of he Communist movement—British toys like Allison or Spratt stand up for the rights of a people to be free, the Imperialist ruler forgets the white-man's prestige and is ready to wreak vengeance upon his own jat bhai.

Let us rise above wailing over pain endured by individual sufferers.

British imperialism is a destined factor in the rise and fall of modern capitalism; it was conceived as an economic power, and it has grown up to be an economic evil.

We who have led in the van with a purely political concentration have proved too feeble for the task. Awaken our working masses, organise our teeming peasants, take these myriads of India's toiling children right inside our national organisation by direct affiliation, discipline them within their Trade Unions and within an All-India Workers' and Peasants' Party for direct economic action, not for a metaphysical but for an economic passive resistance.

YOUNG COMRADES' LEAGUE

Organise our youths of both sexes from the age of ten into a large All-India Young Comrades' League, and without scorn for their youthfulness affiliate them also with the Congress.

Now is the time for a genuine nation-wide boycott movement, not of a picturesque political kind, but of an economic character that will everlastingly impress upon the ruling caste that a Royal Commission which goes out to sow fresh power may bring back a harvest of disaster.

If the British Labour Party have declined to respect the declared wishes of India's representatives and the Indian Trade Union Congress and have become partners in the Imperial game of the capitalist rulers of the British Empire the responsibility is theirs of making the workers of Britain share in the penalties of a severe economic boycott. Do let me appeal to you to avoid the mistakes of the past, and to take a more courageous and scientific line of action.

BOYCOTT BRITISH CONTACT

In the first place, do not try to declare a boycott of all foreign goods, but let us be honest and voluntarily avoid contact with British goods. To keep out of India all foreign goods in the present stage of our development is impracticable in national economics. But it is possible to demand and obtain foreign goods from other nations to substitute goods of British origin at least as long as the representatives of British Labour insist upon sitting on this Royal Commission. Then again do not fail to enlist the assistance of the working class, as by mere dependence upon its commercial and educated section, no nation carries its ideals to success.—Indian dock workers, transport workers, carters, clerks, and all should refuse all contact with goods of British origin. When you have done all this, you have taken action only against a part of commercial imperialism. One of the main objects of Imperialism is transplantation of British interests into India, and in the economics and unjust enrichment of British capitalists, these transplanted activities play a bigger part than exports of good from Britain. Any scientific ostracism of the interests of British capitalism is impossible, unless effective measures are adopted to refuse contact with the economic interest of British capitalist representatives in India. Let Imperialism take care of itself politically or legislatively, it has no right to demand economic co-operation from the conquered. We are legally and constitutionally entitled to refuse commercial and industrial co-operation and hospitality to those who are only out to abuse both.

Let the present Indian National Congress concentrate itself on large and fundamental issues instead of discussing details of every day grievances. Appoint your All-India Congress Committee on a specially larger scale, so that men and women of talent and power can function unceasingly in towns, talukas, and villages and can carry out your national schemes with the full support and co-operation of our Workers and Peasants.

USHER IN EQUALITY

Let me pray you in the end not minimise the difficulty of our task; the problem is not merely an Indian problem, not a problem of foreign ministers or official's ruling in India, it is a world problem, it is the problem of freeing all humanity from a militarist civilisation that it may build a new era of genuine equality, fraternity and liberty. Do not therefore conclude your sittings without adopting adequate measures, and with out creating necessary machinery for your co-operation with the workers of all nationalities who are struggling to attain the same end.

With my heartiest good wishes and trusting in your efforts to get me back in your midst as soon as possible despite the cunning and stupid attempts to exile me,

I remain,
Ever one of you and at your service,

YOURS fraternally,

(Sd.) Shapurji Saklatvala.

KING AMANULLAH'S DAILY LIFE

HOW HE SPENDS HIS DAY IN KABUL.

His Majesty King Amanullah Khan has left India's shores and by this time must have gone hundreds of miles off from India. The spirit and enthusiasm expressed by Bombay is naturally subsiding now. Still it will be interesting to know as much more about this King among Kings and man among men, who had attracted all of us while he was in our city and who has left an impression on us which will certainly be everlasting. We give below an account of King Amanullah's daily life in Kabul. It appeared in the Afghan Number of the "Khilafat Daily" published on the day of King Amanullah's arrival in Bombay:—

"King Amanullah even to this day leads the life of a soldier. He hates formalities. He gets up early in the morning and goes for a walk sometimes on foot and sometimes in a motor car. No one accompanies the King at this time because as it is he fears none in this world excepting the Almighty God. He goes to any place he likes. It is not at all necessary that he should go out of the city or in an open maidan for a walk. Sometimes he goes to some small streets in the city and by the way inspects the work of the sanitary department. On his return from his morning walk he takes his breakfast. From 8-0 a.m. till 6-0 p.m. he is busy with his office work. During this time he takes his lunch and afternoon tea also. Different days are fixed for the Ministers and they come on the appointed time and present the papers to the King and get directions from him. Attached to office is a rest house where King Amanullah takes his lunch at 1-0 p.m sometimes alone and sometimes with some friends and officers who happen to be present. He is used to taking very simple food which consists of 'Kabuli bread' soup and two or three different dishes of mutton. Seldom he takes rice. He eats very little sweetmeats but likes to eat fruits.

During the day he never enters his harem. After finishing his day's work, he plays tennis for a while and then goes out in a motor car to get fresh air. During this time he often listens to the complaints of poor people, sometimes picks up some tired pedestrians in his car and drops them at the places they like to go. He is a passionate lover of his people and is well-known for his suavity and gentleness.

He never rebukes anybody. He knows French, Turkish, Persian and a little of Urdu. He is very fond of riding and as an indoor game he likes to play billiard.

Generally after his prayers he prays for the uplift of the Muslims of the world. Any report of their prosperity pleases him while any news of their distress makes him gloomy. After returning from his evening walk he enters his harem and takes his supper with Her Majesty the Shah Khanum. The most notable fact of the Eastern King's life of which every Afghan and every Eastern would feel proud is that he did not, even ever think of, polygamy. His love for his queen and the way in which he leads his private life with perfect peace and amity is really an ideal one. Her Majesty the Queen is a daughter of His Excellency Sirdar Mahmad Tirzi. Their Majesties have got four daughters and three sons. The eldest of their sons Prince Rahmatullah is now eight years old."

AFGHAN QUEEN'S APPRECIATION

GIVES VALUABLE DIAMOND BROOCH TO COMMERCIAL AGENT'S WIFE.

One of the noble traits of His Majesty Amanullah Khan, the King of Afghanistan is the appreciation of the work done by persons in State-employment in his regime. Mr. Rustom Ardeshar Dubash brother of Mr. Hormusji Ardashar Dubash, the well-known florist of Bombay, was appointed by the late Amir, after his visit to Bombay as Palace Controller in Kabul, and there had won golden opinions of all. After working there for some years, Mr. Rustomji Dubash returned to Bombay and was appointed Commercial Agent to the late Amir, which post he has continued to hold up to date, under King Amanullah Khan as well. On the latter's visit to Bombay this month, the Queen of Afghanistan, specially invited Mrs. R. A. Dubash and presented a very valuable diamond brooch to Mrs. Dubash with her best wishes in appreciation of the work which Mr. Dubash who is many times ably helped by Mrs. Dubash is doing all these years to the entire satisfaction of His Majesty King Amanullah Khan.

DEATH OF M. SAZONOFF

LONDON, Dec. 25

Nice.—The death has occurred of M. Sazonoff who was Russian Foreign Minister in 1914, and, subsequently, represented Koltchak at Paris.—Reuter's Special.

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